ANAÏS
FLOGNY
SMOKE
GETS IN
YOUR EYES

"I always did what it took to survive.
But you know that.
You made me like this . . .
and you destroyed me."

Chicago. 1930. **JULES TIVOLI** is a penniless Italian immigrant doing odd jobs to make ends meet. A twist of fate causes him to cross paths with **ADAM**, a kingpin in Chicago's criminal underworld, who sees something in Jules that nobody else does—something special. Under Adam's wing, Jules becomes *somebody* and falls in love hard with the man who made him. But after an FBI crackdown, Jules and Adam must flee to New York.

There, Jules's Italian heritage gains him access, recognition, and power in the Cosa Nostra crime family. As he becomes more important in a city where Adam can't seem to catch a break, he meets **EUFRASIO**—a handsome, violent, and ambitious new partner who insists that Adam is holding Jules back. But Jules would be nothing without Adam—wouldn't he?

Torn between his past and his future, a sudden betrayal forces Jules to find a way to protect his love and prove his loyalty—if he can even manage to make it out alive.

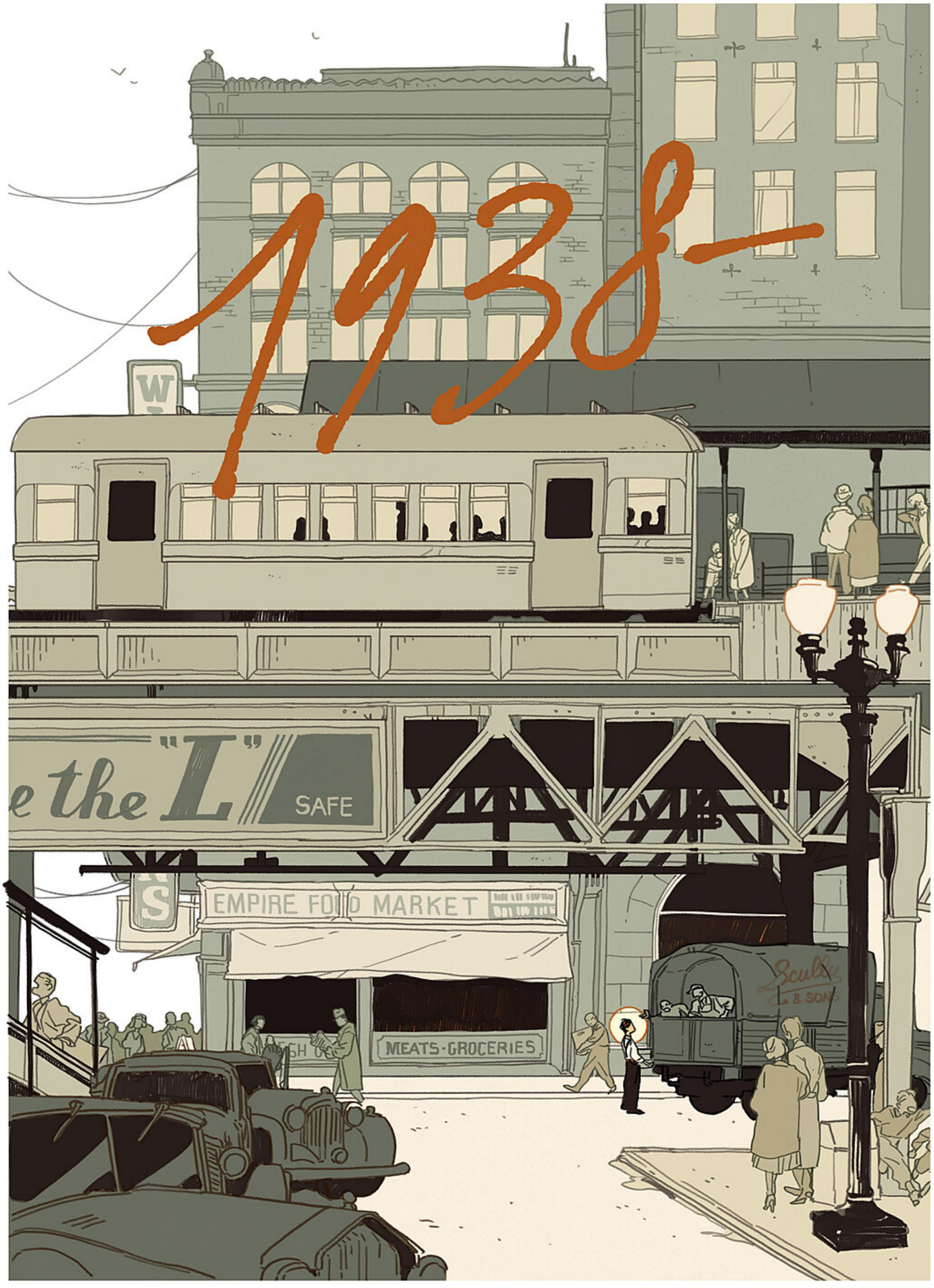
Smoke Gets in Your Eyes is a stunning tale of love and lies from debut graphic novelist and rising-star illustrator **ANAÏS FLOGNY**. This must-read mafia drama is perfect for fans of manga such as *Banana Fish* and graphic novels like *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me*.

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

ANAÏS FLOGNY

ABRAMS COMICARTS • NEW YORK


1938
W
e the "L"
SAFE
EMPIRE FOOD MARKET
MEATS-GROCERIES

Scully
SONS

FINE TAILORING
HAVE YOUR SUITS MADE TO ORDER AT
WHOLESALE PRICES.
TIES & SUITS READY TO WEAR AT
WHOLESALE PRICES.
Willow & Sons
Fine Tailoring
Chicago
PRODUCTS
15

HELLO, MR. MEEKS! HERE'S YOUR DELIVERY.

GO ON, DON'T JUST STAND THERE. YOUR PAY IS ON THE COUNTER.

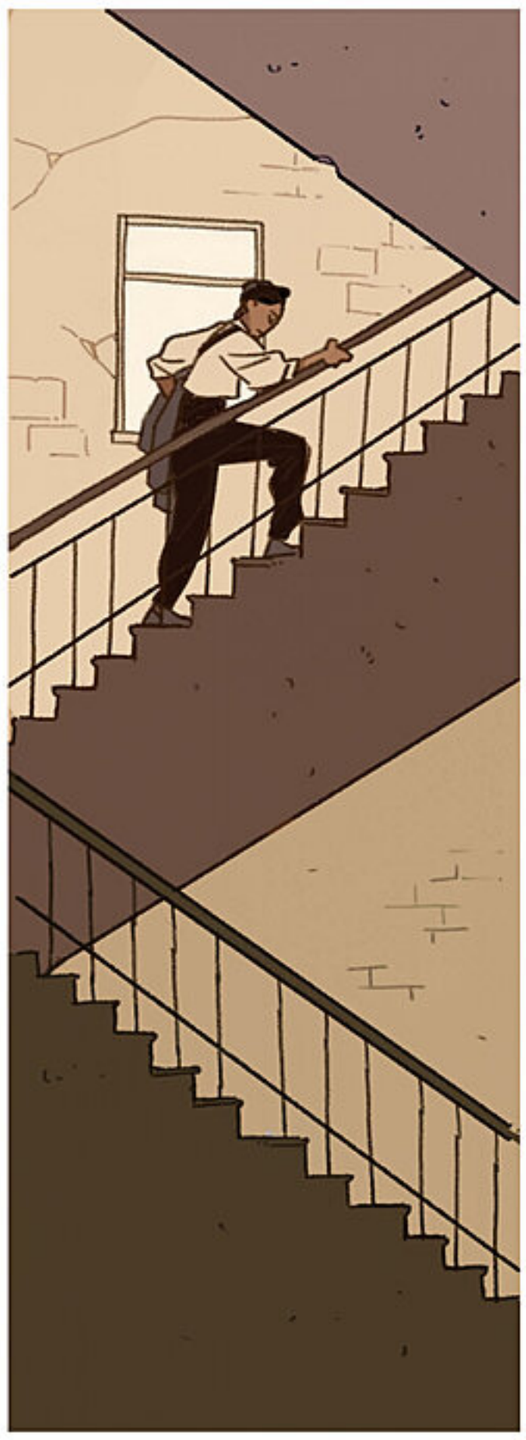
...

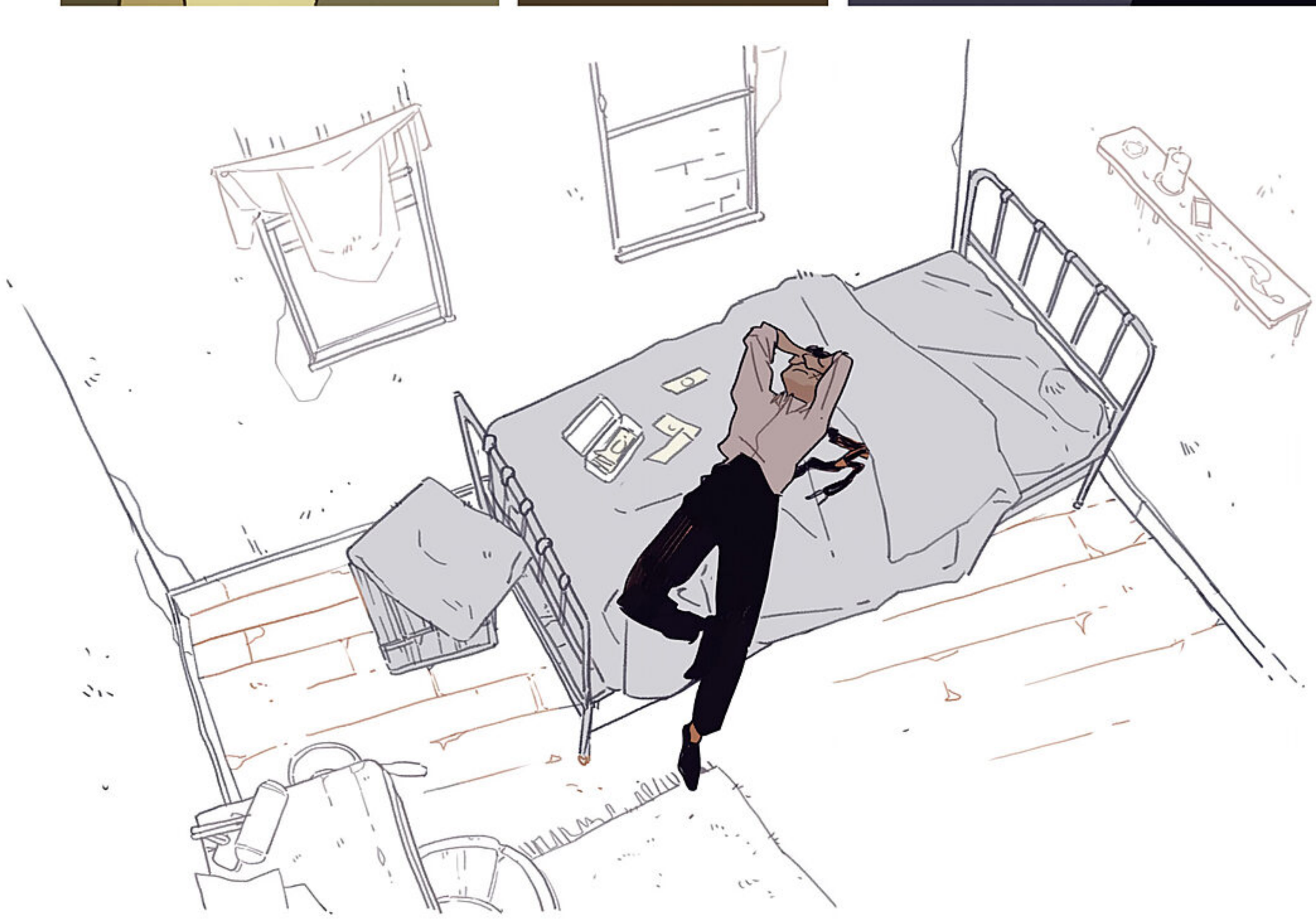
WAIT! WHY IS THERE LESS THAN USUAL?!

QUIT WHINING.

BE GLAD YOU STILL GOT A JOB, DIRTY WOP.

SO SAY THANK YOU, AND GET OUT.





MEEKS LIQUOR MARKET

DAMN IT, JULES!!!

WHY ARE YOU LATE *AGAIN*?! Y'KNOW WHAT, I DON'T EVEN WANNA HEAR IT!

I'LL JUST DOCK YOUR PAY. I SWEAR, YOU ITALIANS... ALL A BUNCH OF...

UH...

H-HELLO, MR. CZAR.

D-DON'T MIND THE KID. HE WAS JUST LEAVING.

HELLO, BOB. I HOPE YOU HAVE WHAT I ASKED FOR.

YES, MR. CZAR, I HAVE YOUR ENVELOPE. BUT NOT HERE...

I'LL GO...

I'LL GO FETCH IT.

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!

There are times when it feels like everything could suddenly change...

As if a person's entire destiny truly hinged on a single encounter.

But that's just in stories.

Things like that never happen in real life

HOW DID YOU GET THIS SCAR?

!

THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.

NONE OF MY BUSINESS?

THIS BAR BELONGS TO *ME*.

BY EXTENSION, WHATEVER HAPPENS IN IT IS MY BUSINESS. GET IT?

SO... BE A GOOD LITTLE BOY,
AND TELL ME.

WELL?

I HATE WAITING,
YOU KNOW.

MR. CZAR!

IT'S ALL IN THE ENVELOPE.
JUST LIKE YOU ASKED.
PERFECT.
IT'S A PLEASURE DOING
BUSINESS WITH YOU, BOB.

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK.

HERE'S YOUR MONEY! SHOW UP LATE AGAIN, AND I'LL BE THRILLED TO DOCK YOU EVEN MORE.

NOW GO ON, BEAT IT.

WHAT DID *HE* WANT?

DON'T MEDDLE IN OTHER PEOPLE'S BUSINESS.

SIR, IS THAT MAN...

ENOUGH! DON'T GET INVOLVED IN THINGS YOU CAN'T HANDLE. YOU'VE TRIED MY PATIENCE LONG ENOUGH. NOW *SCRAM*!

After that day, I couldn't stop thinking about that stranger and his men.

They would come to the store every week.

A quick, routine visit.

Everything would always happen the same way.

They'd come early in the morning.

Sometimes alone...

...sometimes in pairs.

But he...

...was always the last to leave.

Slick men...

...with classy hats, classy coats, classy suits...

...and a few well-chosen accessories.

They never left empty-handed.

Whatever Meeks thought, I was no idiot.

Playing tough guy is one thing, but missing payday when the Mafia is protecting your business is never a good idea.

The Chicago Outfit was feared and respected.

For shopkeepers, they were protectors. For the police, they were a living hell.

A threat to anyone who crossed their path...

...and a way out for poor bastards who wanted to rise above their lowly condition.

Maybe I was an idiot, after all.

MEEKS LIQUOR MARKET

YOUR ENVELOPE IS READY, SIR.

THANKS, BOB.

I LIKE IT WHEN PEOPLE HONOR THEIR COMMITMENTS.

YOU CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON ME.

DON'T FORGET THE "BONUS" NEXT WEE—

GIVE ME A JOB.

HA HA HA!

THE DELIVERY BOY'S GOT NERVE. WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

AHA.

SO THIS IS ABOUT MONEY.

I WANT TO WORK FOR YOU.

NO.

I'M NOT AFRAID OF HARD WORK! THE PAY HAS TO BE BETTER THAN HERE!

IF YOU WANTED *MONEY*, ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS ASK.

HERE YA GO, KID.

GO BUY YOURSELF SOME CANDY AND LET THE GROWN-UPS TALK.

WH—?!

I DON'T WANT A HANDOUT!

I WANT TO *EARN* IT!

YOU ALREADY WORK FOR ME BY DELIVERING HERE. THAT'S PLENTY.

YOU REALLY OUGHT T TEACH YOUR DELIVERY BOYS SOME MANNERS, BOY.

SEE YOU NEXT WEEK.

KRAK

NO.

I'M OUTTA HERE.

GOODBYE.

S-SORRY, MR. CZAR! THE KID'S GOT NO EDUCATION! THAT'S *NOT* HOW I RUN MY ESTABLISHMENT!

I WOULD *NEVER* DISRESPECT YOU!

YOU KNOW HOW ALL THESE ITALIANS ARE...THEY'RE REAL SCUM, THEY—

It had been a week since the incident at the store.

WHAT AN IDIOT!!!

I'd acted like a fool. I'd lost my credibility, my job...

not to mention that I barely had enough money to pay rent.

KNOCK KNOCK

Fate doesn't come knocking as often as your landlord does.

I should have kept that in mind.

Every action comes with its share of consequences...

SORRY, SIR. I'M GOING TO BE LATE WITH THIS MONTH'S RENT...

...!

FU—

AH!!!

Often disastrous.

P-PLEASE...

I WASN'T THINKING, I...

I-I'M SORRY. I'M SORRY ABOUT THE OTHER DAY!

IS *THIS* HOW YOU PRESENT YOURSELF?

HUH?

SHOW A LITTLE DECENCY, AT LEAST.

BUY YOURSELF SOME REAL CLOTHES. *THEN* WE'LL TALK.

And then he left.

I was still alive...

...and I knew what that meant.

I found myself clutching my last few dollars to my chest, ready to throw them away for some unspoken promise.

I didn't know the man. He didn't know me, either. But for some reason that I couldn't grasp at the time, I was willing to take the leap.

Was I young and naive?

Perhaps.

Was it really worth it?

Absolutely.

1940

JULES, IT'S TIME TO GO.

OK, BOSS.

GET IN. THIS ONE'S FOR YOU.

I'd been working for him for two years.

I got used to the Outfit in no time.

I was clever enough to assert myself and smart enough to know when to shut up.

I was no longer the kid I'd been.

A desperate outcast.

I'd changed.

WELL *SHIT*, LOOK WHO'S HERE!

I was fully aware of how things around us worked.

YOU THINK YOU CAN JUST BREEZE BACK IN HERE AFTER ALL THIS TIME AND ASK ME FOR A JOB?

SORRY, WOP. I'VE GOT NO ROOM FOR DEADBEATS AROUND HERE.

HELLO, BOB.

WHAT...

YOU'D BETTER GET YOUR ASS IN GEAR, BOB. WE DON'T HAVE ALL DAY.

YES, I...SORRY, GENTLEMEN.

I'LL GO GET THE ENVELOPE.

A simple game with just one rule...

Everyone is expendable.

WHAT, AREN'T YOU HAPPY?

NO. THAT GUY'S A BASTARD. HIS *PIZZO* OUGHT TO BE HIGHER, JUST TO TEACH HIM TO BEHAVE HIMSELF.

DON'T WORRY, JULES. BASTARDS LIKE THAT WILL *ALWAYS* HAVE SOMETHING TO PAY.

But now, I was somebody.

And I owed it all to this man.

Adam Czar was an ambitious man.
Thirty-two years old. Polish immigrant.

A man who rose from nothing to become
a key player in the Chicago Outfit.

He came to America in 1922. He took full advantage of Prohibition in order to make ends meet.

In three short years, he had built a small empire.

All of Chicago's illegal liquor now passed through him.

And this man had sensed something in me.

HERE, HAVE A DRINK. IT'S LATE.

THEN WE'LL WRAP THINGS UP.

BOSS?

HM?

DO YOU REMEMBER THE FIRST TIME WE MET?

YOU ASKED ME ABOUT MY SCAR.

I'D JUST ARRIVED IN CHICAGO AND DIDN'T HAVE A PENNY TO MY NAME. IT WAS THE BEGINNING OF THE GREAT DEPRESSION.

SO, SINCE THE BANKS HAD NO MONEY, I HAD TO BORROW SOME FROM PEOPLE WHO DID. AND I WASN'T ABLE TO PAY THEM BACK ON TIME.

THEY DIDN'T GO EASY ON ME. THEY GAVE ME **THIS** AS A SOUVENIR, TO REMIND ME THAT I WAS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FOOD CHAIN.

I'LL PROBABLY NEVER BE ABLE TO MAKE THEM PAY FOR WHAT THEY DID...

BUT NOW I HAVE A CHANCE TO PROVE TO EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THEM THAT THEY WERE WRONG, STARTING WITH MEEKS.

SO FOR *THAT*... THANK YOU.

WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME THIS NOW?
I DON'T KNOW. I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW, THAT'S ALL.
SO...
...DOES THAT MEAN THAT NOW I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT YOU?

UH...

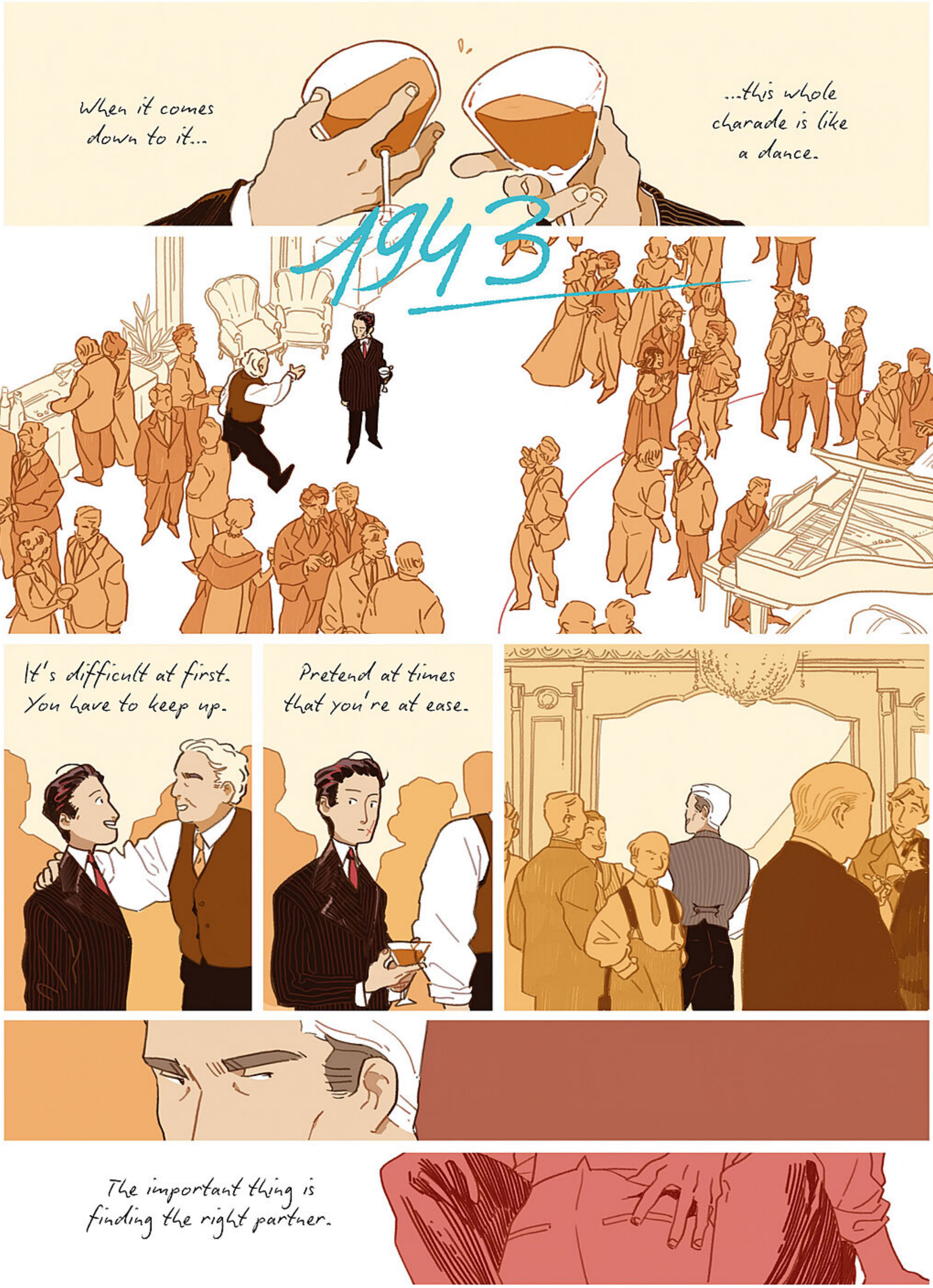
BOSS, I...

AND YOU?

HA HA. C'MON, KID.

LET'S CALL IT A NIGHT.

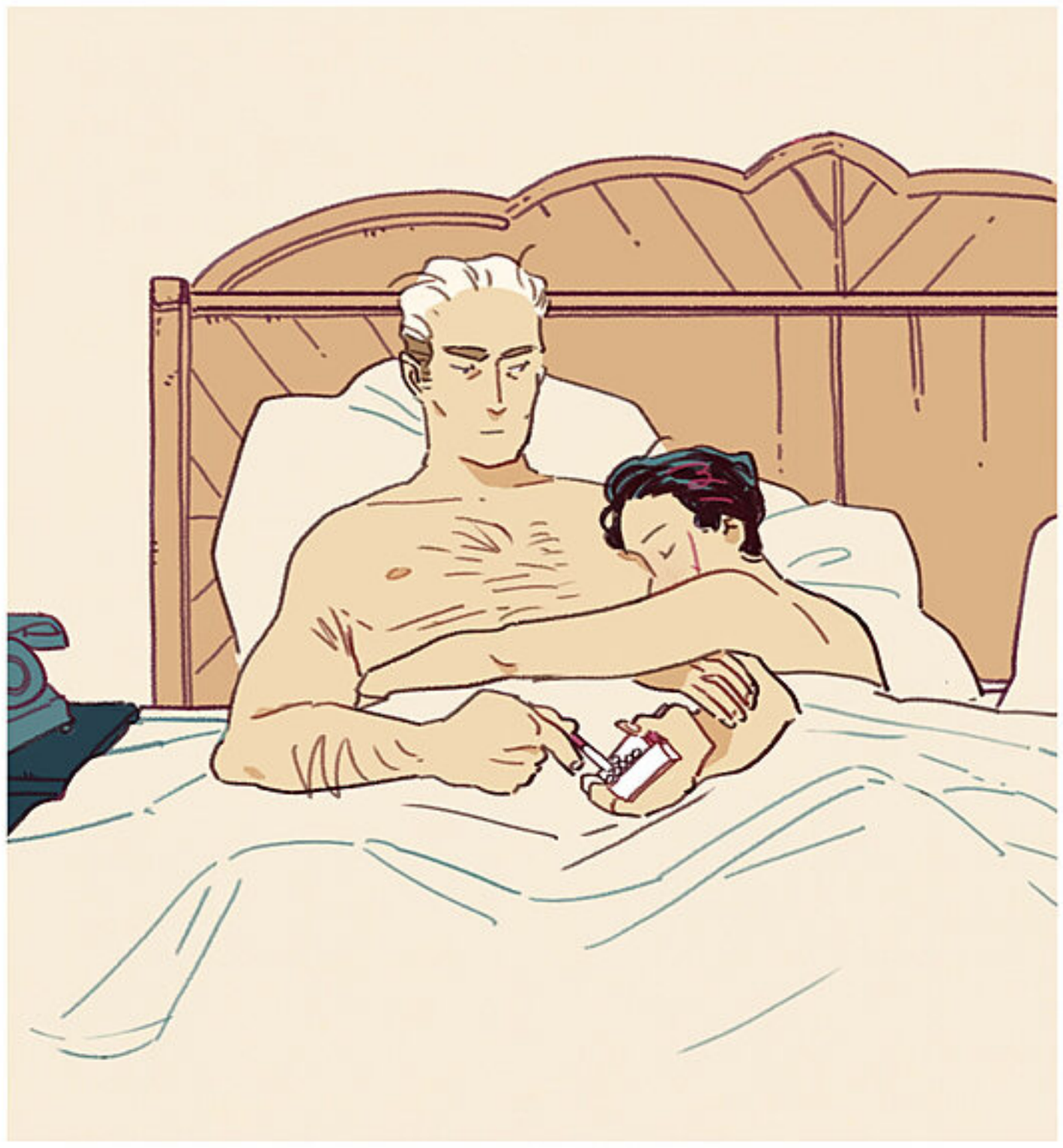
IT'S LATE. WE'LL FINISH THIS QUICKLY, AND YOU CAN GO HOME.
I thought about what Meeks had said...
AND JULES?
"Don't get involved in things you can't handle."
This was the first time I'd ever felt I was handling something.
WE CAN ALWAYS PICK THIS BACK UP ANOTHER TIME.


When it comes down to it...
...this whole charade is like a dance.
1943
It's difficult at first. You have to keep up.
Pretend at times that you're at ease.
The important thing is finding the right partner.

If he's confident, you start believing you know what you're doing.

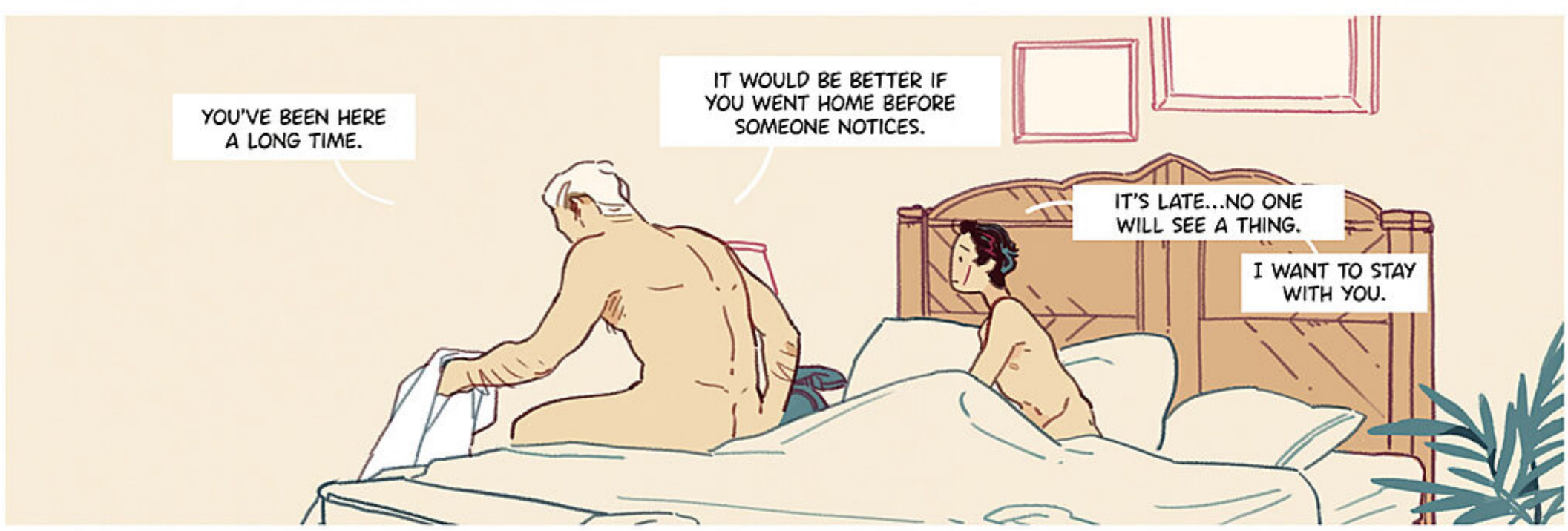
I still had no idea...

But it felt good, because it was with him.



YOU WANT A CIGARETTE?
HM...NO, THANKS.

ADAM?


YOU'VE BEEN HERE A LONG TIME.
IT WOULD BE BETTER IF YOU WENT HOME BEFORE SOMEONE NOTICES.
IT'S LATE...NO ONE WILL SEE A THING.
I WANT TO STAY WITH YOU.

LET ME TELL YOU A STORY, JULES.

A FEW YEARS AGO, I KNEW A YOUNG MAN LIKE YOU. *SAMUEL*. HE WAS PASSIONATE, GENEROUS, AND INTELLIGENT.
THEN OUR ASSOCIATES SUSPECTED HIM OF BEING HOMOSEXUAL. I HAD TO PUT THREE BULLETS IN HIS HEAD. TO SET AN EXAMPLE.

YOU HAVE TO BE CAREFUL IN—

ADAM, THAT MAN...

DID YOU KNOW HIM, OR...DID YOU KNOW HIM *INTIMATELY*?

WHAT'S IT TO YOU?

HIS FATE REMAINS THE SAME.

YOU'D BETTER GET YOURSELF HOME.

DON'T FORGET THE MEETING TOMORROW.

Thanks to Prohibition, booze and money had flowed freely for thirteen years.

When it was repealed, this considerable source of revenue dried up. Adam had to change careers.

Controlling unions and nightclubs, protection rackets... His fortune allowed him to conquer new territories...

THIS BOTTLE'S FROM 1920. THE BEST YEAR.

TO US!

...and bring together like-minded individuals.

HERE'S TO US!

TO THE OUTFIT!

AS LONG AS YOU'RE IN CHARGE, EVERY YEAR WILL BE BETTER THAN THE ONE BEFORE IT.

SPARE ME THE FLATTERY.

I JUST LEARNED HOW TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISIONS AT THE RIGHT TIME.

AND CRUSH THE COMPETITION.

HAHAHH

I HEAR SCHIRO AIN'T DOIN' SO BAD EITHER.

PROHIBITION MADE HIM RICH, BUT WAR HAS MADE HIM UNTOUCHABLE.

HE'S GOT A STRANGLEHOLD ON THE WORKERS' UNIONS, SO IT'S NO WONDER HE JUMPED AT THE CHANCE.

BUT SUPPLYING BOTH SIDES WITH HIS LOUSY METAL, SOLELY FOR HIS OWN BENEFIT...

YEAH, WHATEVER. ONCE THE WAR'S OVER, THEY'LL TREAT HIM LIKE A HERO. MAYBE HE HAD THE RIGHT IDEA.

WHAT AN INDUSTRY! PROFITS GO STRAIGHT TO THE BANK, AND LOSSES TO THE GRAVEYARD!

THE ONLY REASON YOU'RE BITTER IS THAT HE CAME UP WITH THE IDEA BEFORE YOU DID. WHAT'S KEEPING US FROM DOING THE SAME?

OUT OF THE QUESTION.

WAR IS TOO UNCERTAIN A BUSINESS. SURE, I'LL GAMBLE, BUT NO GAMES OF CHANCE. AND DON'T FORGET THAT THESE SOLDIERS ARE DESTINED TO BECOME CANNON FODDER. I'LL PASS, THANKS.

NO DRUGS, NO WEAPONS.

WHATEVER SCHIRO THINKS.

IT'S FUNNY YOU SHOULD SAY THAT, CZAR.

BECAUSE I ALSO HEARD THAT YOU'VE BEEN AVOIDING HIM LIKE THE PLAGUE EVER SINCE YOU SCREWED HIM OVER A FEW YEARS AGO. SO WHICH *WAS* IT, WERE YOU BAD IN BUSINESS, OR DID YOU BETRAY HIM?

HEY, WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOU—

YOU OUGHT TO CHECK YOUR SOURCES, ROSELLI.

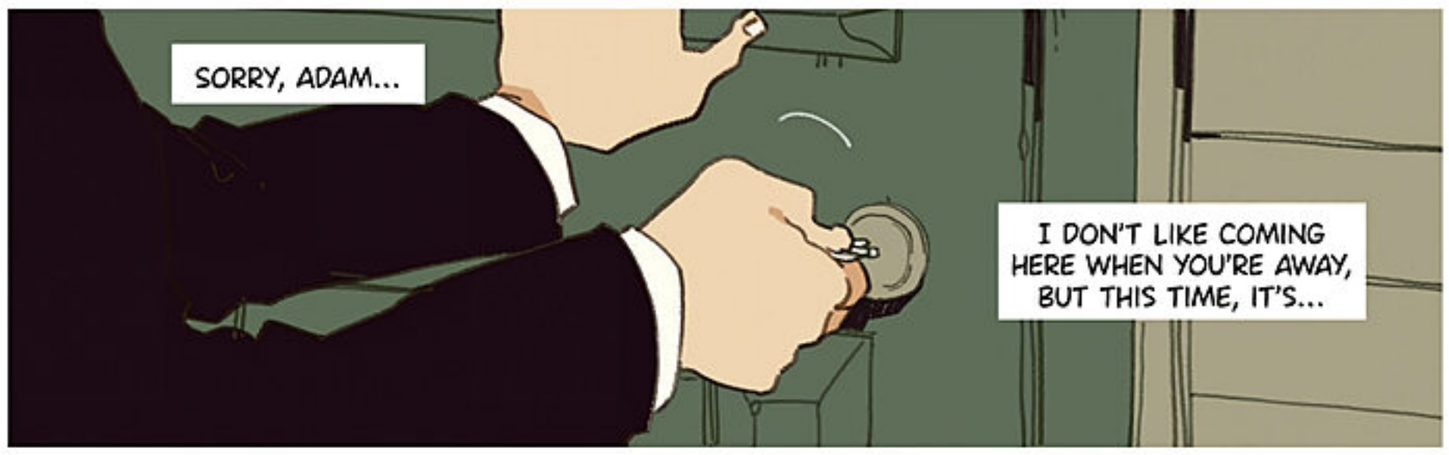
THE ONLY PROBLEM I HAD WAS A BAD PARTNER.

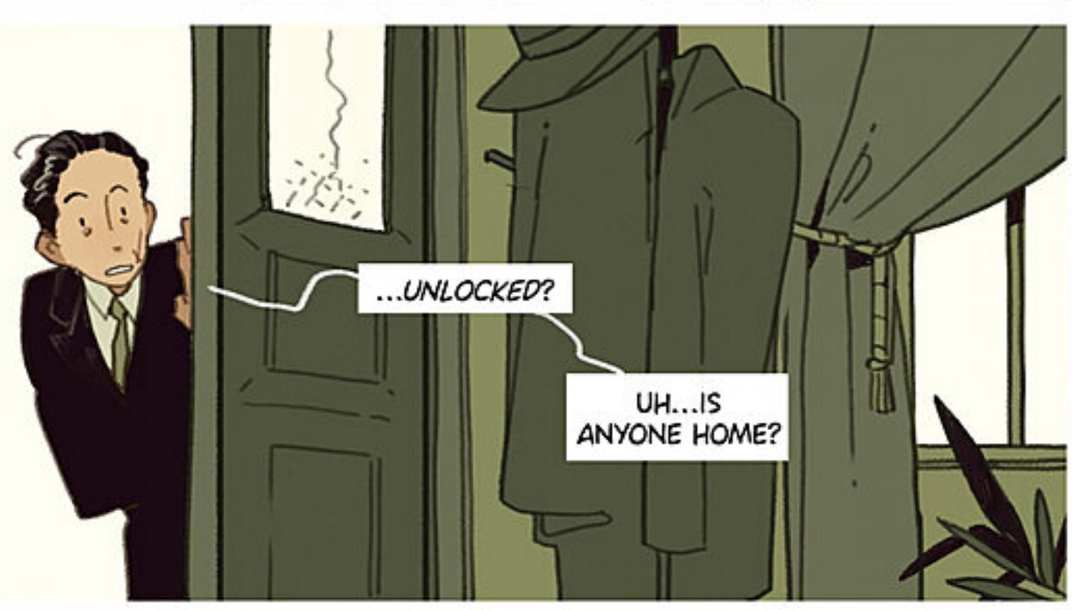
Adam had savored his rise to power, parading it before the Outfit's leaders.

But in order to reach the top, sometimes you have to cut a few ties.

Then, all you have to do is avoid costly mistakes.

OH, CAZZO.


SORRY, ADAM...
I DON'T LIKE COMING HERE WHEN YOU'RE AWAY, BUT THIS TIME, IT'S...


...UNLOCKED?
UH...IS ANYONE HOME?

ADAM...? I THOUGHT YOU'D BE IN TOWN THIS AFTERNOON.

I FORGOT SOMETHING YESTERDAY. YOU HAVEN'T SEEN MY—
YOUR BRIEFCASE IS ON THE PATIO.
BUT IT'S GOOD YOU'RE HERE...

HURRY UP AND GET IT, AND CLEAR OUT. AND QUIT FORGETTING YOUR THINGS DURING MEETINGS.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?!
I DIDN'T FORGET MY...
TELL ME, CZAR...

WHAT KIND OF RUFFIAN WALKS INTO YOUR HOME WITHOUT KNOCKING?

JULES, GET OU—

TUT-TUT.

IT'S FINE, CZAR. I'LL HANDLE THIS.

JULES, IS IT?

IT'S VERY IMPOLITE TO BARGE IN LIKE THIS AND INTERRUPT GROWN-UPS.

WHAT YOU HAVE IN THAT BRIEFCASE MUST BE VERY, *VERY* IMPORTANT.

I HAVE BUT ONE SIMPLE QUESTION FOR YOU, **JULES**...

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHO I AM?

I-I...

I SHOULD'VE KNOWN.
YOU DISHONOR YOUR OLD FRIENDS, CZAR.

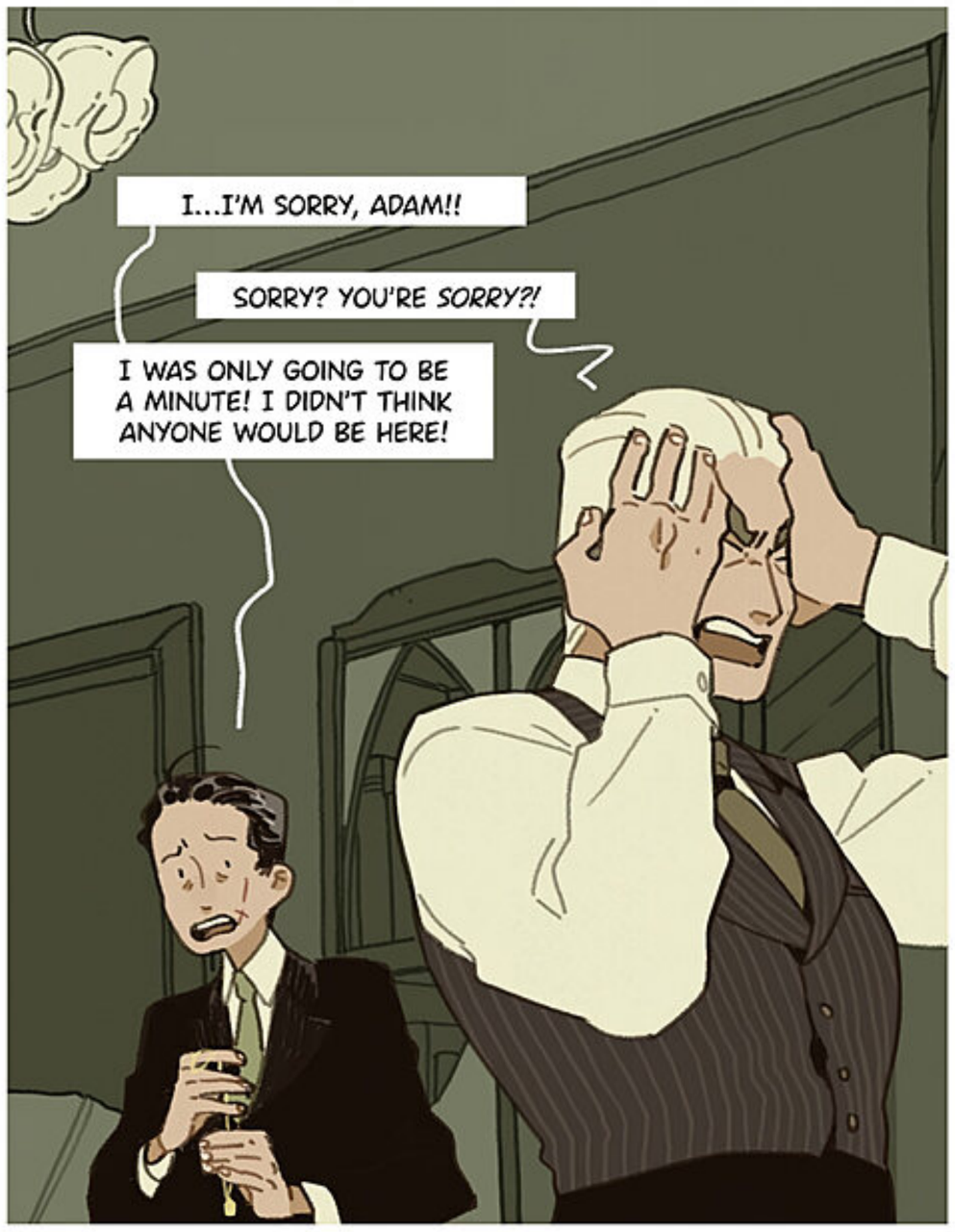
SCHIRO, WAIT.
DON'T GO JUST YET.

JULES IS LEAVING. HE'S DONE *PLENTY*. STAY, LET'S CLEAR THE AIR, AND WE'LL FIND A SOLUTION TO OUR PROBLEMS.

NO NEED, CZAR.

I'VE SEEN *QUITE* ENOUGH.

DAMN IT!!


I...I'M SORRY, ADAM!!
SORRY? YOU'RE *SORRY*?!
I WAS ONLY GOING TO BE A MINUTE! I DIDN'T THINK ANYONE WOULD BE HERE!

YOU THINK THAT'S THE *ONLY* PROBLEM HERE?!
TO BEGIN WITH, STOP LEAVING ALL OF YOUR CRAP AT MY PLACE!

I...
I'LL BE MORE CAREFUL THE NEXT TIME... I PROMISE...

NEXT TIME? WHAT DO YOU MEAN? THE NEXT TIME YOU STROLL INTO MY HOUSE IN FRONT OF WITNESSES?
WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST GO AHEAD AND TELL HIM WE'RE SLEEPING TOGETHER?!
DO YOU WANT TO END UP WITH THREE BULLETS IN YOUR HEAD, TOO?

YOUR BULLSHIT'S GOING TO GET US BOTH *KILLED*, JULES!

I...
I...

I WON'T DO IT AGAIN...

I...

I DIDN'T MEAN TO...

LISTEN, JULES.

WHAT'S DONE IS DONE, AND NOW WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH IT.

SCHIRO IS A DANGEROUS MAN.

WE'LL HAVE TO BE TWICE AS CAREFUL AND QUIT SEEING EACH OTHER FOR A WHILE.

I'LL TAKE CARE OF THIS, BUT FOR NOW, KEEP A LOW PROFILE. HE MUSTN'T SUSPECT ANYTHING.

ALL I ASK IS THAT YOU KEEP DOING YOUR JOB.

Adam's apparent confidence was enough to make me feel safe.

Despite the looming threat of Schiro, business quickly picked up again.

The takings were excellent, but above all, I enjoyed seeing the fear in the eyes of those who used to look down on me.

Some might have found that arrogant.

But actually, I was drunk on the feeling of being somebody at last...

...and working with one of the city's most powerful men.

HEY! YOU THERE!

AIN'T YOU CZAR'S NEW LAPDOG?
Trouble is, wearing an expensive suit makes you forget one small detail.
...WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH HIM?
You're just an underling.
SCHIRO SENDS HIS REGARDS.

HURRY UP, DAMN IT!

WHERE DID THEY FIND HIM?

IN AN ALLEYWAY. THEY JUMPED HIM RIGHT AFTER HE CAME OUT OF MICAH'S.

AND *MICAH*? DIDN'T *HE* THINK TO LET US KNOW?

SCHIRO MUST HAVE PAID HIM OFF OR SOMETHING. HE'S THE ONE WHO TOLD THEM JULES WOULD BE COMING BY TODAY.

GOD HIMSELF WON'T BE ABLE TO PROTECT HIM AFTER SCREWING US OVER LIKE THIS.

DID THEY SAY ANYTHING TO YOU, JULES?

"SCHIRO SENDS HIS REGARDS."

...

I SEE. *I'LL* HANDLE THIS.

YOU KEEP AN EYE ON JULES. THE DOC IS ON THE WAY.

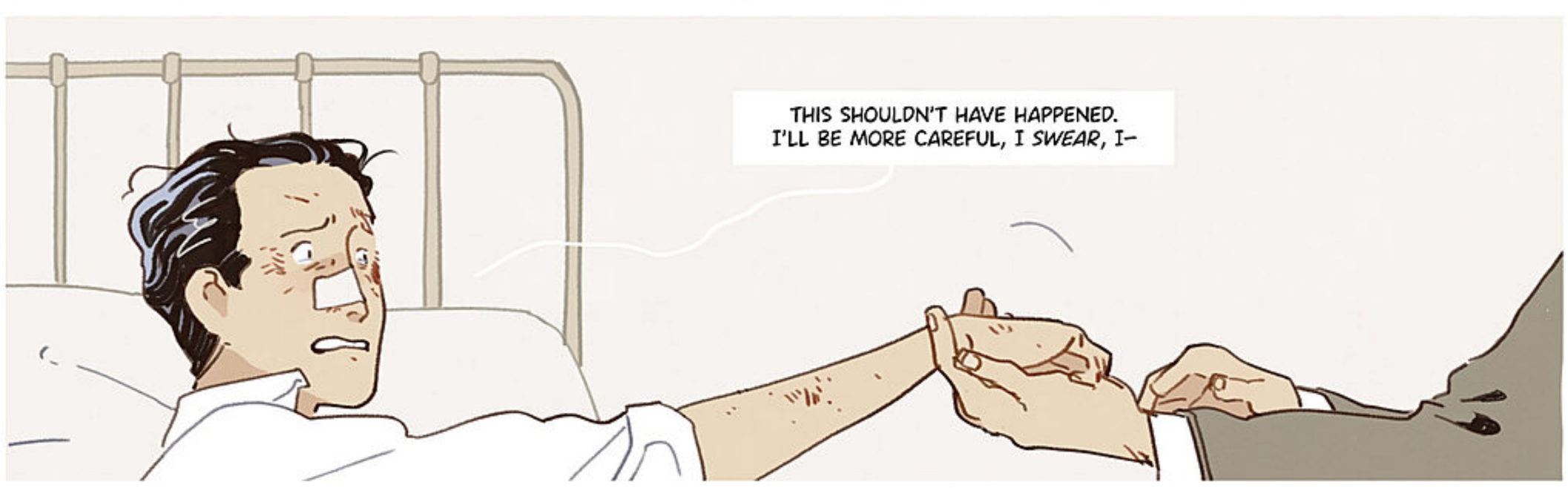
GO PAY MICAH A VISIT LATER TONIGHT. IT'S HIGH TIME HIS BUSINESS CHANGED OWNERS.

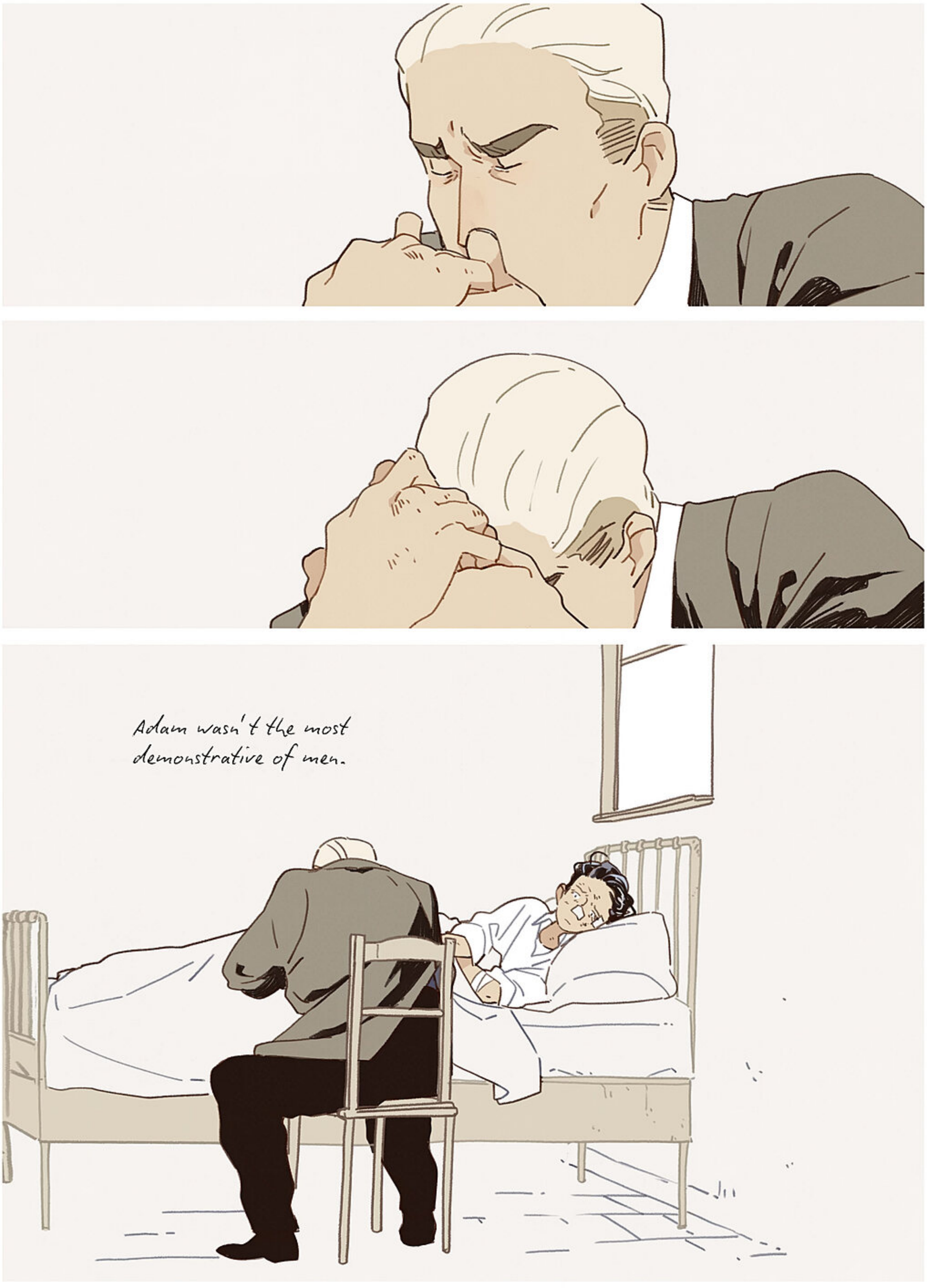
I'LL TAKE CARE OF CLEANUP.

I hadn't expected any special treatment from him.

CLACK!

I'M SORRY, ADAM...
I DIDN'T MEAN TO CAUSE YOU ANY TROUBLE.


THIS SHOULDN'T HAVE HAPPENED. I'LL BE MORE CAREFUL, I SWEAR, I–


Adam wasn't the most
demonstrative of men.

I didn't want him to do me any favors.

?

Chicago Daily Tribune

CASABLANCA CONFERENCE

Stalin left out in the cold!

Chicago • Daily • Tribune

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1943 — 32 PAGES

B STRIKES IN D

TWO BODIES FOUND IN CAR, CRASHED

2 MEN FOUND SHOT IN CAR

Gang settlement in brutal daylight.

"Seems like a revenge, police says"

MEN KNOWN FROM LOCAL SERVICES, LOCAL RIVAL MOB INVOLVED.

OPERATION BA-BARE IS A SUCCESS

Union Chiefs Members Hail

Roosevelt in Cairo; Allies on the way

ADAM? ARE THOSE SCHIRO'S MEN?

Chicago Daily Tribune

CASABLANCA CONFERENCE

Stalin left out in the cold!

But this went far beyond what happened to me. This whole situation was bad for business.

THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU'RE CARELESS.

DON'T GET YOURSELF INTO ANY MORE COMPROMISING SITUATIONS.

And for that, there could be no mercy.

ALREADY BACK ON YOUR FEET AFTER A MONTH, HUH?

MY RIBS STILL HURT A LITTLE, BUT NOTHING TOO BAD.

WELL, *GOOD*. I'M GLAD TO HAVE YOU BACK ON THE JOB.

YEAH...ME TOO. I MISSED IT, I THINK.

I FEEL MUCH MORE AT EASE ON THE STREET. IT'S STRANGE TO GO FROM UNDERPAID DELIVERY BOY TO THE GUY WHO COLLECTS THE *PIZZO*.

HA HA! JULES, YOU'RE SOMETHING ELSE.

A FEW YEARS AGO, YOU WERE STILL JUST A KID. YOU WERE JUST LIKE THEM, PLAYING WITH FAKE GUNS AND DAYDREAMING IN FRONT OF FANCY SHOP WINDOWS.

ONE OF THE GOOD THINGS ABOUT THE OUTFIT IS THAT YOU CAN'T PRETEND YOU'RE SOMETHING YOU'RE NOT.

SOONER OR LATER, YOU HAVE TO REVEAL WHO YOU TRULY ARE.

YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY IN A SHORT TIME, JULES. I KNEW YOU HAD POTENTIAL THE MOMENT I LAID EYES ON YOU.

IF YOU KEEP FOLLOWING MY ADVICE, YOU'LL GO FAR...*WE'LL* GO FAR.

I'M NOT WORRIED ABOUT OUR FUTURE.

VRRRRRRRRR

WE JUST HAVE TO—

CZAR!!!

LOOK OVER HERE, YOU SON OF A BITCH!

DONG DONG

NGHH!

OH, *CRISTO*...

ADAM, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

ADAM?

ADAM?

THE SURGEON'S ON THE WAY. I ALREADY TOLD ROSELLI, THEY'RE GONNA STAND GUARD TONIGHT!

NGH!!

LIE BACK DOWN.

MR. CZAR, WE'LL MAKE HIM PAY FOR THIS!

WE HAVE TO SEND THEM A MESSAGE!

GENTLEMEN, *CALM DOWN!*

WE HAVE TO OPERATE. YOU NEED TO LEAVE, SIR.

BUT...!

NO BUTS ABOUT IT. LEAVE.

Schiro had decided to hit hard, gunning him down in plain sight.

In their eyes, they'd missed him. But not in mine.

I had never seen Adam's ego so badly wounded.

PIERCE. GET EVERYONE TOGETHER. DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, BUT MAKE SURE THEY GET THE MESSAGE.

THAT BASTARD ISN'T GOING TO RUIN ME A SECOND TIME.

THIS IS WAR.

26

No one was safe anymore.

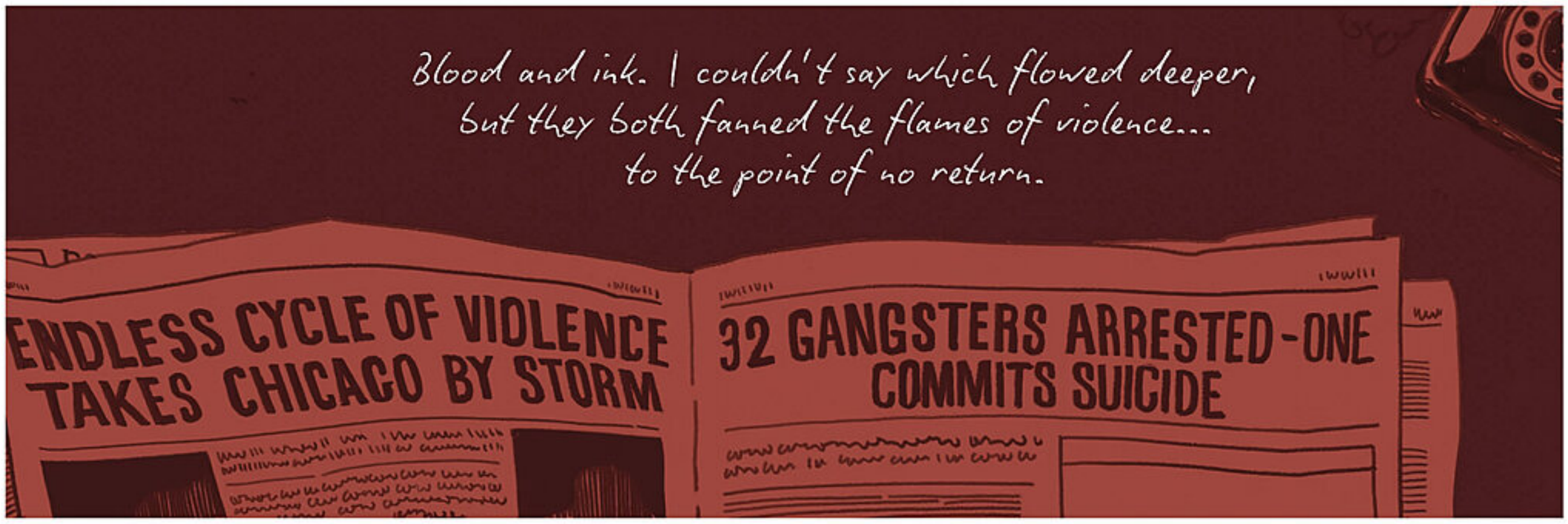
It was the start of weeks of brutal payback.

The whole city became a battlefield...
THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS TO SCHIRO'S FRIENDS
...where each side would strike anywhere to wipe the other from the map.

It wasn't long before the Feds got involved.

And the cops came down hard on both sides.
Heads started rolling everywhere.

Some couldn't bear the thought of going back to prison.


Blood and ink. I couldn't say which flowed deeper,
but they both fanned the flames of violence...
to the point of no return.
ENDLESS CYCLE OF VIOLENCE TAKES CHICAGO BY STORM
32 GANGSTERS ARRESTED - ONE COMMITS SUICIDE

THEY ARRESTED ROSELLI THIS MORNING.

AND PIERCE GOT SHOT BY SCHIRO'S GUYS. THEY JUST FISHED HIS BODY OUT OF THE RIVER.

ADAM...THERE ARE ONLY A HANDFUL OF US LEFT. WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

WHATEVER WE DECIDE, IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD. IF WE TRY TO TAKE SCHIRO DOWN, THE FEDS WILL HIT US HARD. THEY'RE WATCHING OUR EVERY MOVE.

OUR HANDS ARE TIED. BUSINESS HAS COME TO A STANDSTILL, AND THEY'RE BLEEDING US DRY. IF WE GET ARRESTED, AT BEST IT MEANS A SHAM TRIAL...AT *WORST*, A BULLET IN THE HEAD BEFORE WE GET TO PRISON.

CHICAGO HAS BECOME TOO DANGEROUS.

THE SLIGHTEST MOVE HERE COMPLICATES THINGS. THE TERRITORY IS A MINEFIELD.

WE'RE FIGHTING CHICAGO AS MUCH AS WE ARE OUR ENEMIES. IF WE HOPE TO SURVIVE, I ONLY SEE ONE SOLUTION.

WE HAVE TO MOVE.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, *MOVE*? WE CAN'T JUST PACK UP ON A WHIM! HOW CAN WE BE SURE THAT THINGS WILL WORK OUT SOMEPLACE ELSE?

IT'S LIKE PUTTING TOGETHER A CREW IN ANOTHER TOWN. HERE, IT'S NOT WORKING ANYMORE, SO WE RELOCATE. WE LEAVE SOME MEN BEHIND TO MANAGE OUR AFFAIRS, AND WE BRANCH OUT.

ALL OF OUR ASSOCIATES...OUR *CLIENTS*! WE'LL HAVE NOTHING LEFT! YOU CAN'T REBUILD A NETWORK JUST LIKE THAT!

WE GO TO NEW YORK.

I HAVE A FEW FRIENDS THERE I'VE HELPED IN THE PAST. IT'S TIME THEY RETURNED THE FAVOR.

THEY'LL HELP US REBUILD. THEY OWE ME. PACK YOUR BAGS, I'LL TAKE CARE OF OUR TICKETS.

I...I DON'T KNOW, ADAM. MY WHOLE LIFE IS HERE.

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN FOLLOW YOU ON THIS.

IT'S SIMPLE, JULES. EITHER WE COVER OUR TRACKS, OR SCHIRO AND THE FEDS WILL FOLLOW THEM BACK TO US.

FIVE YEARS AGO, YOU TRUSTED ME TO LEAVE YOUR OLD LIFE BEHIND. AND YOU PULLED THROUGH JUST FINE.

NOW, IT'S TIME TO DO IT AGAIN. YOU HAVE TO LOOK AT THINGS DIFFERENTLY. THIS ISN'T JUST ABOUT YOU.

IT'S ABOUT **US**. AND FOR THIS TO WORK, I NEED TO KNOW YOU'RE WITH ME.

Maybe he was just trying to reassure me, but one thing was certain...

The next day,
we were on our way
to New York.

In New York, everything was bigger.
And you had to move fast.
I felt like everything would eventually go back to the way it was.
New York Times

ADAM, LOOK! THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT SCHIRO!

The New York Times
ALLIES IN SICILY

WHAT'S THAT?

HE GOT ARRESTED YESTERDAY! DOES THAT MEAN THE COAST IS CLEAR? CAN WE GO BACK TO CHICAGO?

WHAT'S WRONG? YOU DON'T LOOK HAPPY.

The New York Times
AMERICA FIGHTS JAP
IN SOLOMONS

SCHIRO MIGHT BE OUT OF THE PICTURE, BUT THERE'S ALWAYS THE FEDS. THEY'RE FAR TOO HAPPY TO HAVE LANDED A BIG FISH TO LEAVE IT AT THAT.

WHAT'S WORSE, IF WE RUN AWAY AGAIN WITH OUR TAIL BETWEEN OUR LEGS, WE'LL LOSE OUR CREDIBILITY FOR GOOD. NO, WE NEED TO REBUILD OUR BUSINESS AND FIND NEW ALLIES, AND THEN WE'LL BE SAFE.

HM...

ALLIES IN SICILY

The New York Times
AMERICA FIGHTS JAP
IN SOLOMONS

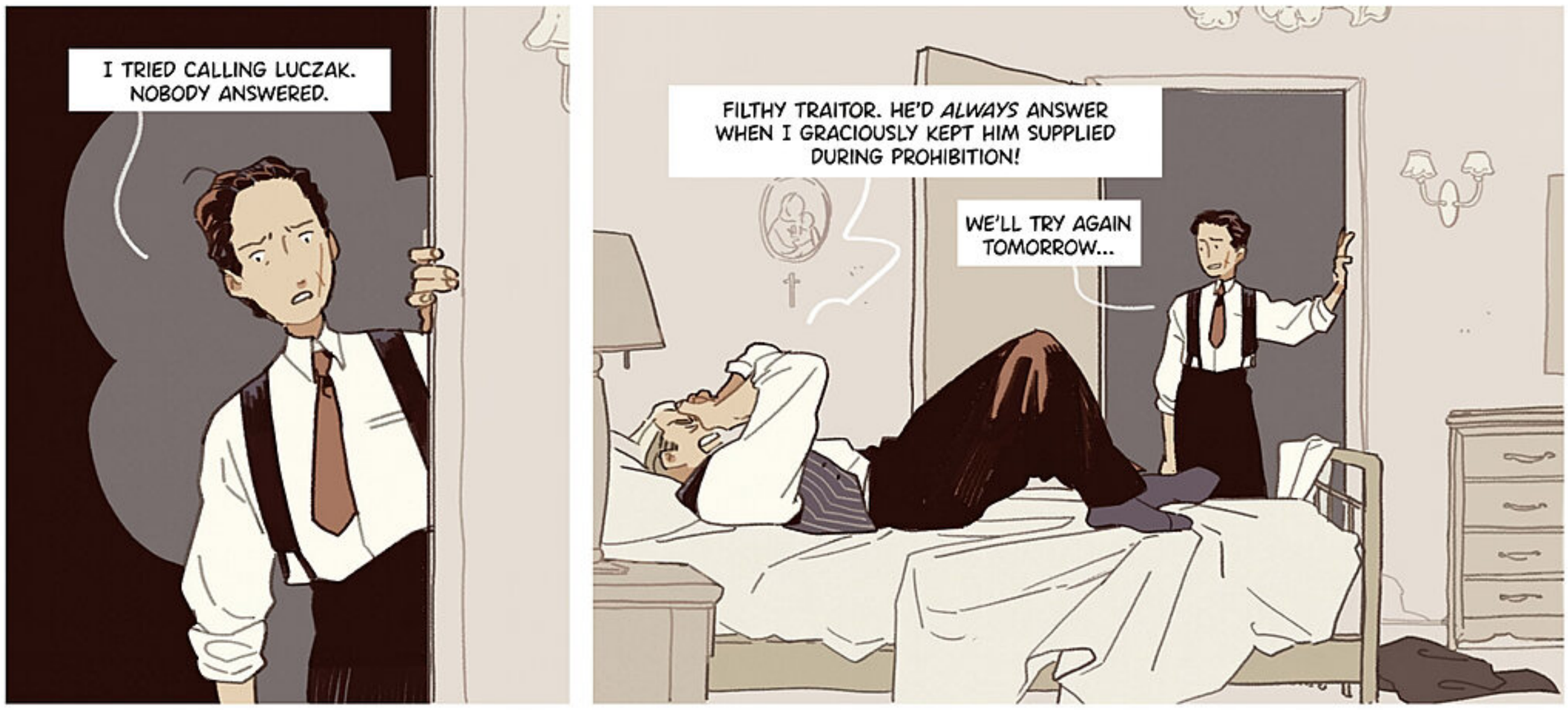
THAT'S WHY I NEED TO KEEP WORKING THE PHONES. MONEY ISN'T GOING TO FALL INTO OUR LAPS, YOU KNOW.

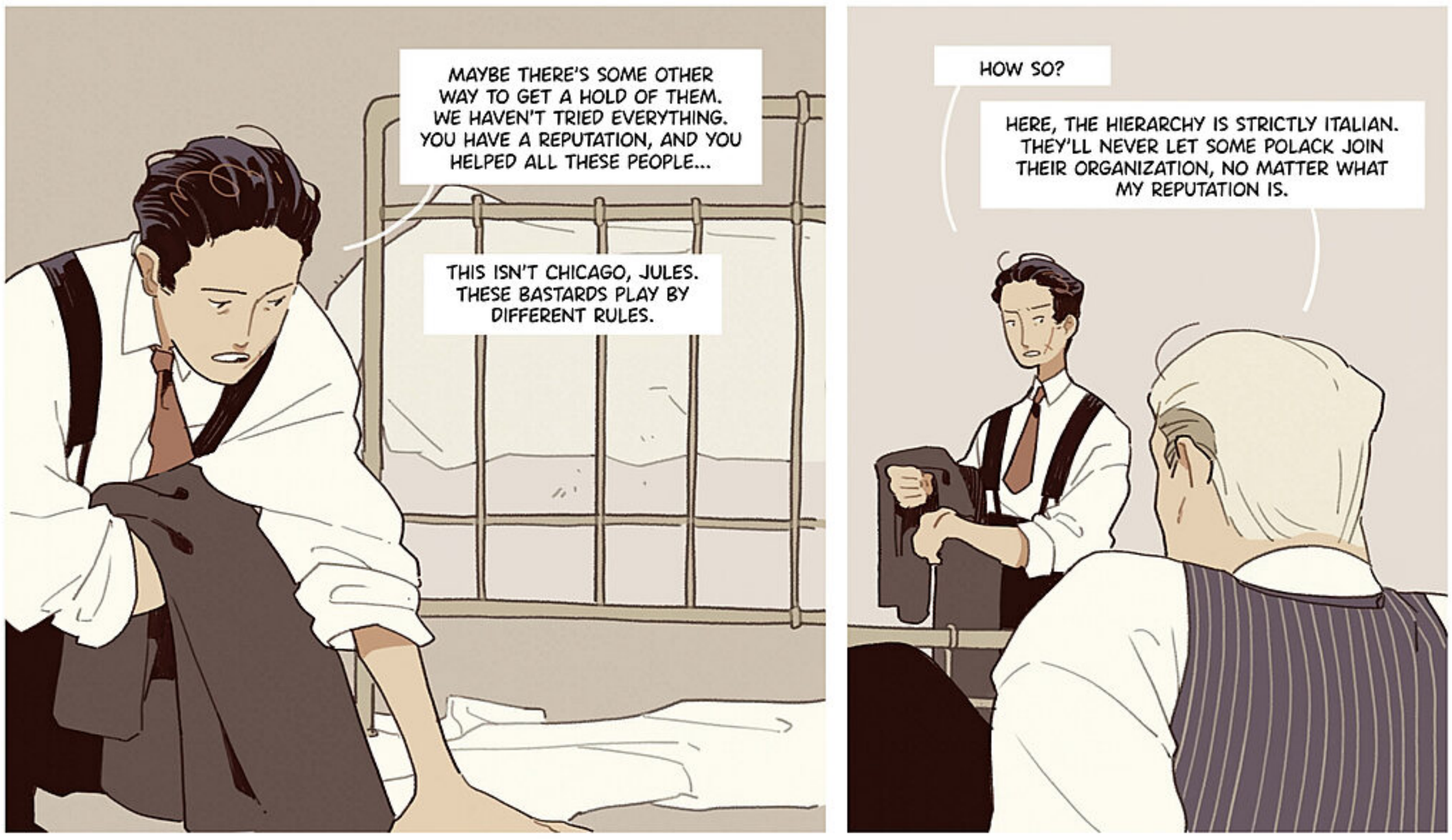
NOW? THEN CALL FROM RIGHT HERE!

NO.

I'LL KEEP YOU WARM.

THAT'S TEMPTING.


I TRIED CALLING LUCZAK. NOBODY ANSWERED.
FILTHY TRAITOR. HE'D *ALWAYS* ANSWER WHEN I GRACIOUSLY KEPT HIM SUPPLIED DURING PROHIBITION!
WE'LL TRY AGAIN TOMORROW...


MAYBE THERE'S SOME OTHER WAY TO GET A HOLD OF THEM. WE HAVEN'T TRIED EVERYTHING. YOU HAVE A REPUTATION, AND YOU HELPED ALL THESE PEOPLE...
THIS ISN'T CHICAGO, JULES. THESE BASTARDS PLAY BY DIFFERENT RULES.
HOW SO?
HERE, THE HIERARCHY IS STRICTLY ITALIAN. THEY'LL NEVER LET SOME POLACK JOIN THEIR ORGANIZATION, NO MATTER WHAT MY REPUTATION IS.

AT BEST, I'LL BE AN ASSOCIATE. AN *ASSOCIATE*! CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT? I WAS THEIR SAVIOR BACK THEN. I'VE WORKED LIKE A DOG FOR TWENTY YEARS AND MADE SO MANY SACRIFICES, ONLY TO WIND UP AS A *STOOGE*?!

THIS IS A TRAVESTY, JULES.

BUT...

IF YOU CAN'T JOIN THEIR ORGANIZATION, WHO *CAN*?

...

OF COURSE, JULES. *THAT'S* WHAT WE'LL DO.

YOU'RE GOING TO WORK FOR THEM.

WHAT?

YOU'RE ITALIAN. YOU'RE RELIABLE. THEY'LL TREAT YOU AS ONE OF THEIR OWN.

JUST DO WHAT WE DID BACK IN CHICAGO, AND FORTUNE WILL SMILE ON Y—

HA HA...ADAM. STOP IT.

JULES, *LISTEN* TO ME!

I SAID *NO*! IT'S TOO MUCH!

THINK ABOUT IT, JULES! IT'S THE PERFECT ARRANGEMENT. WE'LL BOTH WORK FOR THEM: YOU ON THE INSIDE AS ONE OF THE FAMILY, AND ME ON THE *OUTSIDE* AS AN ASSOCIATE.

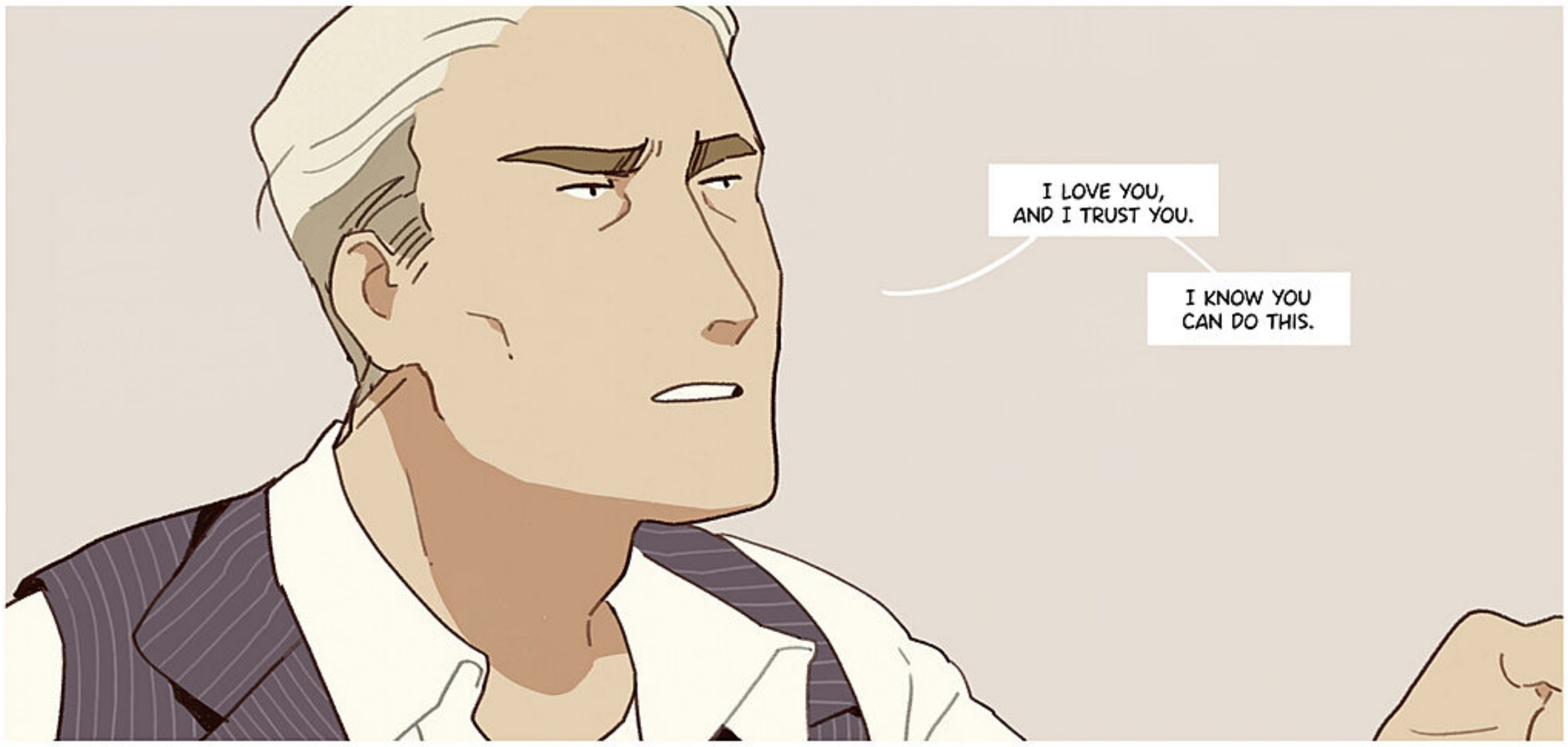
YOU GAIN THEIR TRUST, WORK YOUR WAY UP THE HIERARCHY, AND THEN STEER BUSINESS IN OUR DIRECTION. IT'S A WIN-WIN SITUATION.

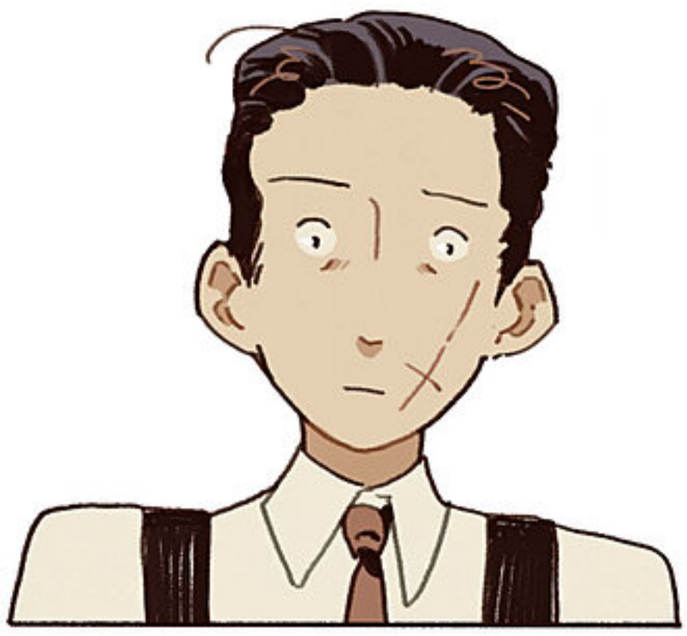
I SAID *STOP IT*! WHAT DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND? I'VE NEVER DONE THIS BEFORE! YOU'RE ASKING TOO MUCH OF ME!

I ALREADY FOLLOWED YOU TO NEW YORK! IT'S A HUGE CHANGE. EVERYTHING'S MOVING TOO FAST.

WHAT IF IT BACKFIRES ON US? IT'S TOO MUCH RESPONSIBILITY! I CAN'T DO SOMETHING LIKE THIS...!

I LOVE YOU, JULES.


I LOVE YOU,
AND I TRUST YOU.
I KNOW YOU
CAN DO THIS.



YOU'RE NOT ALONE. YOU'LL BE WORKING UNDER MY ORDERS, AND I'LL HELP YOU. THEY WON'T HAVE TO KNOW.
TOGETHER, WE CAN DO THIS. BUT YOU HAVE TO DO IT. *FOR US.*

CAN I COUNT ON YOU?
It was the most sincere thing he had ever asked of me.
So I said yes.

SAVERIO IS AN OLD FRIEND, BUT HE WON'T COME IN PERSON.

REGGIA
123
CAFFE - ESPRESSO

MY REPUTATION IS AT STAKE HERE. YOU'LL HAVE TO BE CONVINCING. IT'S NOT EVERY DAY THAT THEY WELCOME NEW MEMBERS.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND?

HM. YES.

BUT WHAT IF I'M NOT UP TO THE JOB? THIS IS OUR LAST CHANCE!

YOU CAN'T TRUST THEM RIGHT AWAY. AND YOU DON'T HAVE TO LIKE THEM.

BUT MAKE THEM LIKE **YOU**. LIE, BROWN-NOSE, BECOME INDISPENSABLE.

THEN THEY'LL FALL AT YOUR FEET.

OK THEN.

MR. SAIETTA, CONSIGLIERE TO DON SAVERIO.

I DON'T HAVE MUCH TIME, SO LET'S SKIP THE FORMALITIES.

FINE BY ME.

MR. SAVERIO IS AN OLD FRIEND, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT HIS BUSINESS IS STRUGGLING.

FRIENDS HELP EACH OTHER.

I'VE KNOWN JULES SINCE CHICAGO. HE'S ALWAYS BEEN A GOOD SOLDIER, BUT MY BUSINESS IS UNDERGOING SOME CHANGES.

HE'S RELIABLE, TRUSTWORTHY, AND HE'S NEVER LET ME DOWN. HIS AMBITIONS GO BEYOND WHAT I CAN OFFER HIM RIGHT NOW...

UNLIKE SAVERIO'S EMPIRE. HE WON'T DISAPPOINT YOU— I CAN PROMISE YOU THAT.

HM.

I DON'T SEE WHY AN OFFER FROM SOME POLACK EVERYBODY TURNS AWAY SHOULD INTEREST US.

A BOSS AS POWERFUL AS SAVERIO WOULDN'T SEND AN ADVISOR TO LISTEN TO AN OFFER THAT DOESN'T INTEREST HIM.

AND JUST WHY SHOULD THE FAMILY TRUST YOU?

ADAM CZAR, THE MAN WHO STABS HIS FRIENDS IN THE BACK, AND WHO GETS STABBED IN THE BACK IN RETURN. OH, THE IRONY.

HAVE I EVER FAILED SAVERIO? *HE* OWES *ME*, NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND. I'M SHOWING HIM RESPECT.

I SEE NO RESPECT HERE. EVERYTHING COMES WITH A PRICE, AND THE FAMILY ISN'T WILLING TO PAY FOR AN UNPLEASANT SURPRISE.

YOU MIGHT QUESTION MY LOYALTY, BUT YOU CAN'T DENY THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MY METHODS.

...

AND YOU?

E LEI COSA PENSA A RIGUARDO?

ME?

<DON'T LOOK AT HIM, I'M THE ONE TALKING TO YOU. YOU'RE ITALIAN, SO ANSWER IN ITALIAN. THIS POLACK HAS INTERFERED ENOUGH. WHAT DO YOU SAY?>

<I WANT TO JOIN THE FAMILY.>

<THE DON HAS A SOLID REPUTATION. HE'S AMBITIOUS, AND THEY SPEAK HIGHLY OF HIM IN CHICAGO. THE NEW YORK FAMILIES ARE INFLUENTIAL, AND I WANT TO OFFER THEM MY SERVICES.>

<YOU CAN FIND KIDS WITH DREAMS OF GLORY ON ANY STREET IN THIS TOWN. YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST TO COME HERE.>

<NOT MANY KIDS WITH DREAMS OF GLORY HAVE FIVE YEARS' EXPERIENCE IN THE OUTFIT AND HAVE LOCAL BOSSES VOUCHING FOR THEM.>

<IF IT'S SO GREAT, THEN WHY DON'T YOU STAY?>

<I THINK YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO THAT CZAR CAN BE OLD-FASHIONED.>

<UNFORTUNATELY, HIS METHODS ARE, TOO.>

HAHAHA!

<SO WE AGREE. HE'S GOT A REAL LOUSY TEMPER.>

...?

<I HAVE ONE LAST QUESTION FOR YOU, JULES.>

<IS ADAM CZAR YOUR BOSS?>

<ARE YOU DOING THIS FOR HIM?>

...

<HE'S MY PARTNER. NOT MY BOSS. I DO THINGS FOR MYSELF.>

OK, JULES. WE'LL BE IN TOUCH.

BRAVO, JULES, VERY IMPRESSIVE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT KIND OF HOCUS-POCUS YOU USED ON HIM, BUT HE WAS UNDER YOUR SPELL.

REALLY?

YES. NOW WE CROSS OUR FINGERS.

WHAT WERE YOU SAYING TO EACH OTHER, BACK THERE?

D'ORA IN POI NON SONO AFFARI CHE TI RIGUARDANO.

WHAT...?

HAH. BRAVO, JULES. YOU'LL GO FAR.

Going far seemed like an unattainable goal.

HELLO?

But sometimes, magic happens.

NEW MAGIC SHOW

All this attention, suddenly going from delivery boy to one of the family...

Who wouldn't find that exhilarating?

<JULES TIVOLI, DO YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE WITH US TODAY?>

So you bluff.

<NO.>

To convince yourself,

or to appear more humble.

I answered questions, made promises, and swore my loyalty.

I took my oath in the most noble of ways, as if I were binding my fate to theirs.

Adam had faith in me, and I had faith in us.

Adam advised me to
blend in quickly, so as not
to arouse their suspicion.

I also didn't forget his most precious advice:

"Make them like you... become indispensable."

1946

AVERIO'S

352 POOL = BILLIARD 352

Leo's Delicate

TI FRESCI

Cortesia

BAR = RISTORANTE

Saniuol 352

WELCOME HOME VITO

HAH! WELL, LOOK WHO'S HERE!

YOU FINALLY GRACE US WITH YOUR PRESENCE. DID YOU GET ALL DOLLED UP LIKE THIS FOR *ME*?

I JUST HAD A FEW THINGS TO DO FIRST, EUFRASIO. THE WORLD DOESN'T REVOLVE AROUND YOU.

HAH!

HOW WILL I EVER MOVE UP THE LADDER ONE OF THESE DAYS IF MY PARTNER SHOWS UP LATE?

NOT EVERYONE CAN BE A CAPO.

C'MON, WE'LL TAKE MY CAR!

HAVE FUN, BOYS. AND EUFRASIO? DON'T BREAK EVERYTHING THIS TIME.

I'LL LEAVE SOME FOR YOU, DON'T WORRY!

Enfrasio was a made man, a soldier. He'd been working for Saverio longer than I had, but we'd been a team for two years now.

A flippant show-off, he had the natural charisma and insolence of a movie star.

And, like all celebrities, he enjoyed making headlines.

LOOK, I CAN EXPLAIN...

I'M TRYING TO BE UNDERSTANDING, THOMAS, BUT IT'S TIME TO SETTLE UP.

PLEASE, I JUST NEED A LITTLE MORE TIME.

IT'S NO LONGER A QUESTION OF TIME. YOU'RE A WEEK LATE, AND THIS ISN'T YOUR FIRST WARNING.

RUNNING A BUSINESS AFTER THE WAR IS FAR MORE COMPLICATED. I HAVE TO IMPORT MY MATERIALS, AND—

YOU'RE SCARED.

WH-WHAT? HUH? NO, I...

YES.

TOC TOC!

YOU'RE *SCARED*.

GARAGE
REPAIRS
New York Car Rental
Heinz
Open 10AM-12PM
RENTAL
SAY, EUFRASIO?
HM?
HOW DID YOU DO THAT THING, BEFORE?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
WHEN YOU TERRORIZED THOMAS WITH JUST ONE FINGER.
OH, *THAT*? IT'S A NEAT TRICK!
STICK YOUR FINGER IN MOTOR OIL AND IT'LL GET HARD AS A ROCK. A LITTLE TAP ON THE TEMPLE HURTS ENOUGH TO MAKE 'EM NOT WANT TO FIND OUT WHAT A WHOLE FIST FEELS LIKE!
NOT BAD, EH?
EUFRASIO, YOU HAVE TO QUIT PLAYING GOD. IT'S GOING TO BACKFIRE ON YOU.
I'M NOT AFRAID OF GOD HIMSELF. I GOT ME A SMITH & WESSON WITH SIX BULLETS IN THE CYLINDER.
THAT'S SEVEN AGAINST ONE.
GHAA...
P-PLEASE...

Enfrasio was a debt collector, just like me.

PLEASE...I'LL PAY YOU, I SWEAR IT. BUT...I... I NEED TIME...

HAH! SO HE FINALLY DECIDES TO TALK! IT'S ABOUT TIME!

And he loved his work. His ambition was to become the best in his field.

YOU NEED TO SPEAK UP, THOMAS OL' PAL. IT'S BEEN TWO DAYS. WHERE'S MY MONEY?

HAVE MERCY...

YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT EARLIER. SALVATION AIN'T FREE.

Some men have a taste for violence.

JULES! GIMME THE PLIERS. WE'RE GONNA EXTRACT MORE THAN A CONFESSION FROM THIS GUY.

Enfrasio could have been a five-star chef.

WHEW...

HE'S GOING TO WORK ME TO DEATH—

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?

I HAVE A SPARE KEY TOO, REMEMBER? SO, HOW WAS THE MEETING?

YOU MEET WITH SAVERIO TOMORROW. I MENTIONED YOUR NAME. YOU JUST HAVE TO DO YOUR LITTLE NUMBER, AND WE'LL HAVE EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS TO SELL ALCOHOL IN THE EASTERN NEIGHBORHOODS.

GREAT, JULES.

LEAVING ALREADY?

I HAVE MEETINGS, TOO. SEE YOU TOMORROW.

OH, AND I LEFT SOMETHING FOR YOU ON YOUR DESK.

FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK, AND MORE.

"Be indispensable."

It had all been so hectic that Christmas took me by surprise.

LAST QUARTER WAS GREAT. NICE JOB.

THANKS, MAX.

<THE DON WISHES TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR WORK. YOU MAKE US ALL PROUD.>

<THANK YOU, MR. SAIETTA. I'M THE ONE WHO'S PROUD.>

<GIVE MY REGARDS TO MR. SAV... >

JULES!!

OVER HERE! WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU!

MERRY CHRISTMAS, BROTHER! *DAMN*, LIFE IS GOOD!

ALREADY DRUNK, HUH?

MAYBE, AND SOON, YOU WILL BE TOO. C'MON, TIME'S A-WASTING.

HA HA...NO, THANKS. I'M NOT STAYING LONG. I JUST WANTED TO SAY HI TO EVERY—

OUT OF THE QUESTION!

LOOSEN UP A LITTLE!

HERE'S TO US, JULES.

TO *US*, EUFRASIO.

HEY, I DON'T KNOW IF YOU HEARD THE NEWS, BUT THAT DIPSHIT FRANK GOT HIMSELF SHOT WEDNESDAY.

YOU SEEM WAY TOO HAPPY ABOUT ONE OF THE FAMILY DYING.

ME? WHY, I WOULDN'T DARE. HOWEVER, THAT MEANS THERE'S A VACANT CAPO POSITION, AND *SOMEONE'S* GONNA HAVE TO REPLACE HIM.

LET ME GUESS...YOU? BRAVO, YOU'RE AN OPPORTUNISTIC BASTARD.

OHHHH, JULES, OL' PAL, YOU WOUND ME. POOR FRANK WAS A MESS, BUT AT LEAST HIS DEATH SERVED A PURPOSE. WHAT ABOUT YOU? YOU INTERESTED?

NO, THANKS. LEADER-SHIP ISN'T MY THING.

YOU LITTLE LIAR. WHO'S NOT INTERESTED IN POWER? DON'T EVEN TRY TO TELL ME YOU WORK FOR SAVERIO OUT OF PURE ALTRUISM.

YOU WON'T BE A SOLDIER YOUR WHOLE LIFE. LOOK AT THE BIG PICTURE. YOU GOT POTENTIAL.

AMBITION ONLY KILLS IDIOTS, AND YOU'RE LUCKY ENOUGH TO BE SMART, SO...

HEY!!

LISTEN TO ME WHEN I TALK TO YOU!

JULES!

WAIT A MINUTE, DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING HOME ALONE TONIGHT?

AT LEAST TRY TO FIND YOURSELF A PRETTY GIRL! YOU NEED TO UNWIND.

NO? IT'S YOUR LOSS. IN THAT CASE, MAKE THE MOST OF IT AND THINK.

YOU WANT TO LEAD AS MUCH AS I DO. YOU'RE JUST IN DENIAL!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

BAR

Martins bar

LUGGAGE

LUGGAGE OUTLET SHOP

Kelly's DAIRY

RECORD

OLD TIME FAVORITES

WHO *ELSE* HAVE YOU GIVEN A SPARE KEY TO?

JULES? IS THAT YOU?

WISE GUY.

IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT TONIGHT?

YES, THANKS TO YOUR ARRANGEMENT.

YOU'VE DONE WELL. KEEP THIS UP AND YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE US FILTHY RICH.

I WAS TALKING ABOUT YOU, NOT ABOUT BUSINESS...

AH. YES. WHEN BUSINESS IS GOOD, *I'M* GOOD.

OH! YOU BOUGHT A RECORD PLAYER?

HM? YES, WITH THE TAKE FROM THE LAST SHIPMENT. YOU CAN PUT ON A RECORD, BUT NOT TOO LOUD. I NEED TO CONCENTRATE.

I ALWAYS DREAMED OF HAVING ONE...

WELL, KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO BUY YOURSELF MUCH MORE THAN THAT PRETTY SOON.

COLTRANE

SPEAKING OF WHICH, I'M GOING TO NEED YOU NEXT WEEK. THERE'S A DELIVERY THAT—

DANCE WITH ME.

I DON'T HAVE TIME, JULES... I'M WORKING.

ADAM...

NO.

ADAM.

NO ONE'S WATCHING.

FOR US...

If I could fly
like birds on high...
then straight to his arms,
I'd go sailing.

I LOVE YOU.

IT'S LATE, JULES. YOU'D BETTER GET HOME.

WE HAVE A BIG DELIVERY TO PREPARE FOR. THERE'S A LOT AT STAKE. I'M GOING TO NEED YOU TOMORROW.

GOOD NIGHT.

Despite some disappointments...

...a little celebration was in order.

Enfrasio had gotten his wish: Saverio had appointed him capo, and had given him his very own team.

That maniac seemed so happy to be in the spotlight at last and celebrated his victory accordingly. He was having the time of his life.

I was so proud of him.

POOF!

YOU'RE HOME LATE, JULES. *WELL?* ANY WORD FROM SAVERIO ABOUT MY CONTRACT?

HRM... I SPENT ALL DAY WITH EUFRASIO...I'M EXHAUSTED...

I'LL LOOK INTO IT TOMORROW, OK?

COULD YOU TURN THE LIGHTS OUT WHEN YOU LEAVE?

JOEY TESSIO?

YEAH? WHO WANTS TO KNOW?

ADAM CZAR. WE SPOKE ON THE PHONE.

OH, YEAH. WHAT CAN I DO FOR YOU?

YOU RECENTLY DID A FAVOR FOR A FRIEND OF MINE, AND I'VE HEARD GOOD THINGS ABOUT YOUR WORK. I OWNED AN IMPORT-EXPORT BUSINESS IN CHICAGO, AND I THINK THAT YOU AND I COULD GO IN TOGETHER.

I HAVE A PROPOSITION FOR YOU.

ASPETTA UN PO' JOEY, HO GIÀ SENTITO DI QUESTO TIZIO.

AH, SICURO SIA LUI?

CERTO.

ENOUGH MUTTERING. WE CONDUCT BUSINESS IN *ENGLISH* HERE.

È IL POLACCO CHE HA TELATO DA CHICAGO DOPO CHE GLI HANNO PIANTATO UNA PALLOTTOLA NELLA SCHIENA. STA PROVANDO A RIFARSI UN NOME.

AHAH, DAVVERO? E HA AVUTO IL FEGATO DI VENIRE FIN QUAGGIÙ?
È SOLO UN SOCIO ORMAI.
QUANDO UNO È DISPERATO FA PROPRIO DI TUTTO PER RESTARE IN BALLO, DICO BENE?
CHE STUPIDO OMUNCULO.
FOTTUTO CANE INCAPACE.

...NO, IT'S NOT "IMPOSSIBLE," IT'S JUST ON HOLD FOR NOW. YOU CAN GO AHEAD AND GIVE ME THE JOB. YOU KNOW I CAN HANDLE IT. THEY'RE...
...YES, OF COURSE. GOODBYE, DANNY. I'LL BE IN TOUCH.
HELLO?
ADAM? IT'S JULES. DID IT ALL GO AS PLANNED?
DID YOU MAKE A DEAL WITH THE SHIPOWNERS?
IT WAS A BIT... COMPLICATED.

HOW'S THAT?

THEY REFUSE TO NEGOTIATE WITH ASSOCIATES. THEY WANT BIGGER GUARANTEES, AND A HUGE ADVANCE.

NO CONTRACTS, NO DANNY DALITZ, NO VEGAS.

I SEE. I'D BETTER COME WITH YOU NEXT TIME. I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.

I OUGHT TO BE THERE FOR YOUR MEETING TOMORROW, TOO.

I CAN HANDLE SAVERIO ON MY OWN.

NOT IF THE SUPPLIERS DON'T WANT TO WORK WITH YOU, YOU CAN'T.

IMPORT-EXPORT WAS THE CORNERSTONE OF MY BUSINESS BACK IN CHICAGO. I DON'T NEED HAND-HOLDING.

I'LL BE THERE. WE MIGHT AS WELL STACK THE ODDS IN OUR FAVOR.

I HAVE TO GO. EUFRASIO IS WAITING FOR ME. SEE YOU LATER.

SAVERIO
RESCI
HELLO, MR. SAVERIO.
PLEASURE TO SEE Y—
IF IT'S JULES YOU'RE LOOKING FOR, SAVERIO HAD OTHER PLANS FOR HIM. THE KID'S MIGHTY RESOURCEFUL, YOU KNOW THAT? THE BOSS KISSES HIS ASS EVERY CHANCE HE GETS.
SO TAKE A SEAT. YOU'LL HAVE TO WAIT, JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.
WE'VE NEVER BEEN OFFICIALLY INTRODUCED. NICE TO MEET Y—
STOP.

YOU'RE DISTRACTING MY PARTNER WITH ALL OF YOUR NONSENSE.

...

HEH. SO *THAT'S* WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.

JULES IS *MY* PARTNER, TOO. HE'S OLD ENOUGH TO MAKE HIS OWN DECISIONS.

AND IF HE THINKS MY IDEAS AREN'T AS SHITTY AS YOURS, THEN MAYBE IT'S FOR A GOOD REAS—

WHO THE *HELL* DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

HA HA...

AND *YOU*? PLAYING TOUGH GUY?

YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN SOMEBODY BACK IN CHICAGO, BUT HERE, YOU AIN'T SQUAT. JUST AN INCOMPETENT BUSINESSMAN WHO RAN AWAY WHEN THINGS WENT SOUTH.

IT PAINS YOU TO BE AN ASSOCIATE, HUH? YOU CAN'T TOUCH ME WITHOUT GETTING YOURSELF IN DEEP SHIT.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR DEAL IS WITH JULES, BUT YOU MUST BE *SERIOUSLY* BRIBING HIS ASS FOR HIM TO KEEP YOU AROU—

HEH.

NOW YOU'RE GONNA SHUT YOUR MOUTH AND SIT YOUR ASS DOWN, AND I WON'T SAY A WORD ABOUT THIS TO SAVERIO.

I'LL SEND THE DRY CLEANING BILL.

...

WE'RE HERE. IT TOOK LONGER THAN PLANNED.

SAVERIO IS ON THE WAY. WE CAN GET...

IS EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT?

EVERYTHING'S *GREAT*, JULES, OL' PAL! WE'RE JUST GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER.

NICE TO MEET A MAN WITH SUCH GOOD SENSE.

ADAM?

IT'S FINE, JULES.

...

WE'RE RUNNING LATE, LET'S GET ON WITH IT.

I'M NOT HERE TO WASTE MY TIME.

THE MEETING WENT WELL. YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO BECOMING SAVERIO'S BIGGEST DISTRIBUTOR! THAT'S A GOOD SIGN!

ALL OUR EFFORTS ARE PAYING OFF! WE'RE BECOMING UNTOUCHABLE!

EUFRASIO IS A GOOD BOSS, AND WE MAKE A GOOD TEAM. THAT SECURES ME A SOLID POSITION WITHIN THE FAMILY.

BE WARY OF HIM, JULES. SOONER OR LATER, HE'S GOING TO GET YOU IN TROUBLE.

I KNOW YOU CAN'T STAND HIM, BUT LIKE IT OR NOT, EUFRASIO IS MY FRIEND.

HE'S A PIG-HEADED THUG. HE'S GOING TO END UP IN JAIL, AND SO WILL YOU.

COULD YOU AT LEAST TRUST ME?

I TRUST **YOU**, NOT **HIM**. I DON'T WANT TO LOSE YOU, JULES.

GIULIANO.

WHAT?

GIULIANO. THAT'S MY REAL NAME.

I CHANGED IT SO I COULD GET A JOB.

NO ONE HAS CALLED ME THAT FOR SO LONG...IT'S LIKE... AN ANCIENT VERSION OF MYSELF THAT I LEFT BEHIND.

I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE.

OK THEN...

LET'S KEEP IT THAT WAY. LET THEM SEE JULES, WORK AND PARTY WITH JULES. BUT AT HOME, YOU'RE GIULIANO.

LET ME BE THE ONLY ONE WHO SEES HIM.

HEH...

TI AMO, ADAM.

DON SAVERIO?

COME IN, JULES.

I'VE COME TO BRING YOU THIS MONTH'S TAKINGS.

LEAVE IT ON MY DESK.

THANKS.

EUFRASIO COULDN'T COME TODAY...HE ASKED ME TO BRING IT TO YOU.

TSK. PERHAPS HE'D BRING IN MORE MONEY IF HE DIDN'T COST US SO MUCH IN COLLATERAL DAMAGE.

HE'S ALMOST RACKED UP MORE DEBT THAN THE PEOPLE HE COLLECTS FROM.

IF I MAY SAY SO, LAST MONTH WAS TOUGH. HE HAD A LOT OF...

DON'T MAKE EXCUSES FOR SCREW-UPS, JULES. THAT'S *THEIR* JOB, NOT YOURS.

HIS AMBITION'S GETTING THE BEST OF HIM.
WHAT A WASTE. HE HAD SO MUCH POTENTIAL.
YOU, AT LEAST, ARE REASONABLE.

SERIOUSLY? CALLING IN SICK ON COLLECTION DAY?
FUCK OFF, JULES. I HAD A KILLER HANGOVER THIS MORNING.

MAYBE THAT WOULD STOP IF YOU DIDN'T PARTY EVERY NIGHT.
EUFRASIO?

YOU EVER THINK ABOUT LEAVING?

...

LEAVING?

YEAH. FAR AWAY.

BEING A CAPO IS COOL AND ALL, BUT THAT'S NOT THE END GOAL. YOU GOTTA AIM HIGHER.

LAPPING UP THE LAST DROPS FROM THAT POLACK'S HOOCH BOTTLES? THAT'S YOUR PLAN? OPEN YOUR EYES.

DRUGS ARE THE FUTURE.

I DON'T KNOW, EUFRASIO. THE DON AND THE OLD-TIMERS DON'T SEE IT THAT WAY...

JULES, THEY'RE *DINOSAURS*! TIMES ARE CHANGING, CAN'T YOU *SEE* THAT?!

THEY'RE ONLY LIVING BY THE OLD RULES BECAUSE THEY'VE HELD UP—*FOR NOW*.

BELIEVE ME, ONCE WE GET OUR STUFF OUT THERE, THEY'LL ALL BE AT OUR FEET.

AS SOON AS I HAVE ENOUGH MONEY, I'M GONE. THE FRENCH ARE PUTTING A KILLER BUSINESS TOGETHER IN MARSEILLE.

I'LL GO TO FRANCE, GET DRUNK ON THEIR WINE, AND BECOME THE SAVERIO FAMILY'S FIRST CONTACT OVER THERE. *THAT'S* WHERE THE FUTURE IS.

IF YOU WANT TO LEAVE, FIRST YOU NEED TO QUIT BREAKING STUFF. YOU'RE GONNA WIND UP DEEPER IN DEBT THAN THAT GUY THOMAS.

HA HA, OH, JULES, OL' PAL, SHUT UP.

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN FOLLOW YOU. *THIS* IS MY COUNTRY...I'VE FINALLY BUILT A LIFE HERE, AND THERE ARE THINGS THAT I CARE A GREAT DEAL ABOUT.

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DREAM YOU HAVE, AND I'M SURE YOU'LL SUCCEED.

BUT I PREFER TO SEE THINGS THROUGH HERE.

YOU KNOW, YOU'RE A NATURAL LEADER.

NOW **YOU** SHUT UP.

ARE YOU SERIOUS? SAVERIO REALLY SHOWERED YOU WITH PRAISE?

HE SEEMED REALLY PLEASED WITH EVERYTHING. I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!

YOU'RE TOO HUMBLE, JULES.

IT'S TOO MUCH. I'M ALREADY IN OVER MY HEAD.

BUT THIS IS GOOD FOR **US**.

YOU'RE GETTING YOURSELF NOTICED, AND THAT HELPS OUR BUSINESS. SOON, YOU WON'T NEED MY ADVICE ANYMORE.

BUT I'LL ALWAYS NEED *YOU*.

WHO IS IT?

NO IDEA!

HELLO? OH! DON SAVERIO?

YES, OF COURSE, I'M...YES!

GOOD NEWS? I'M LISTENING...

OH.

WHERE'S EUFRASIO??

HE'S OVER AT THE BAR. HE'S PLAYING—

EUFRASIO!!!

OH, HEY! YOU'RE UP EARLY!

YOU RECOMMENDED ME?!

TO BECOME A *CAPO*?? ARE YOU MAD?!

SAVERIO CALLED YOU UP? HA HA, THE BASTARD! HE DIDN'T WASTE ANY TIME, LIKE HE DID FOR ME! HE MUST REALLY BE CRAZY ABOUT YOU, JULES, OL' PAL!

I TOLD YOU I WASN'T INTERESTED!!

DAMN IT!
I DON'T KNOW!
I DON'T FEEL READY TO LEAD!
IT'S ALL TOO SUDDEN!
TURN HIM DOWN, THEN.
YOU DIDN'T SAY NO, DID YOU?
I KNEW IT.
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

Becoming a capo was a game-changer. Business was booming, I had my own team and responsibilities. The biggest surprise wasn't that I was good at my job...it was that I actually enjoyed this way of life.

I could feel a desire to succeed growing deep within myself. I had ambition.

!

THIS IS FOR LATER.

HANDSOME.

TIME TO GO.

R = RISTORANTE

...AND AS FOR THE DELIVERIES ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE, WE'RE STILL FACING THE SAME PROBLEM.

SOME ASSHOLE JOURNALIST IS ASKING TOO MANY QUESTIONS AND TRYING TO TURN THE DOCKERS AGAINST US. WE NEED TO PUT A STOP TO THIS.

NO JOURNALIST MEANS NO ARTICLE. MAKING AN EXAMPLE OF HIM WILL DISSUADE ANY OTHER HACKS FROM CONTINUING HIS INVESTIGA—

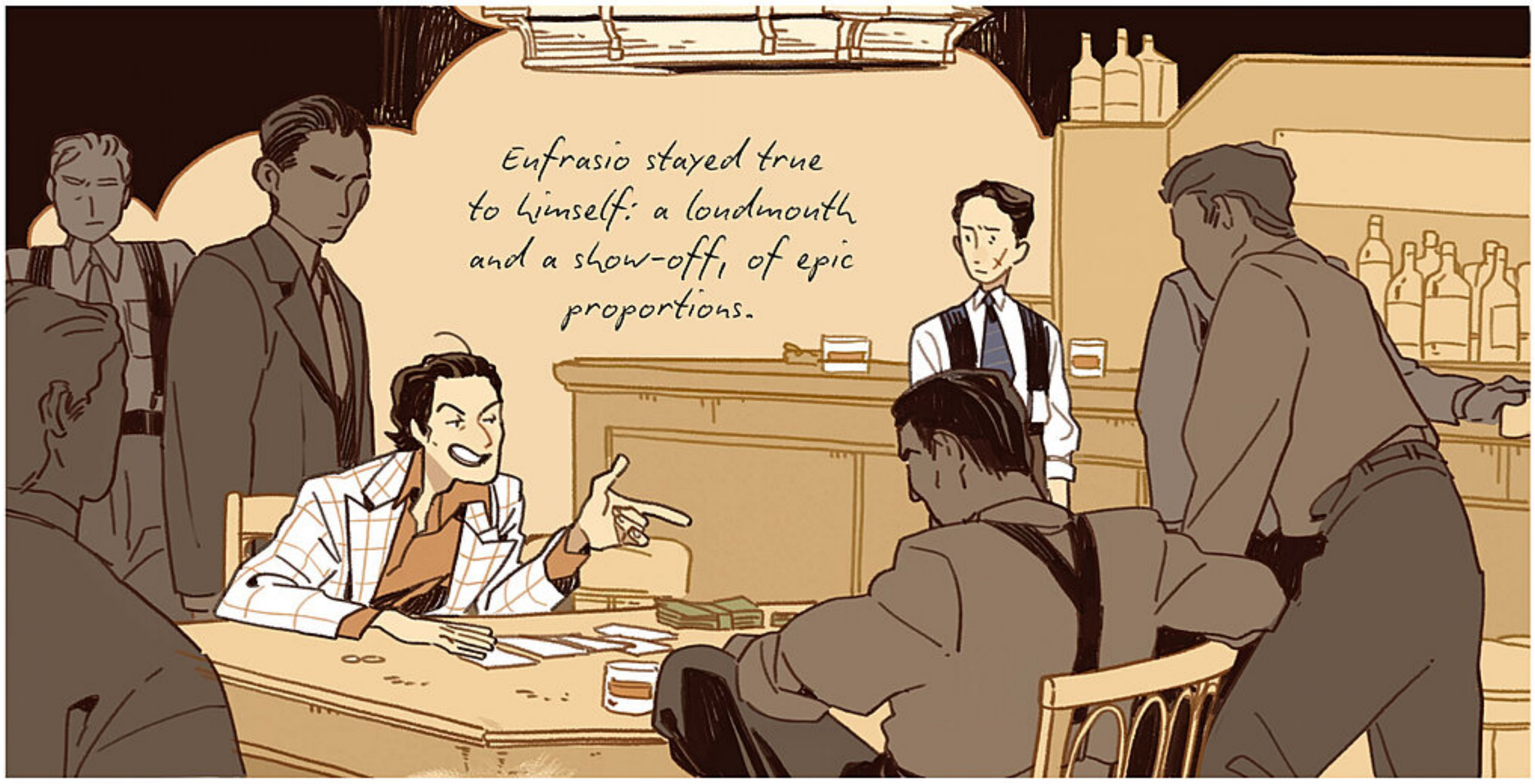
THAT WOULD DRAW TOO MUCH ATTENTION.

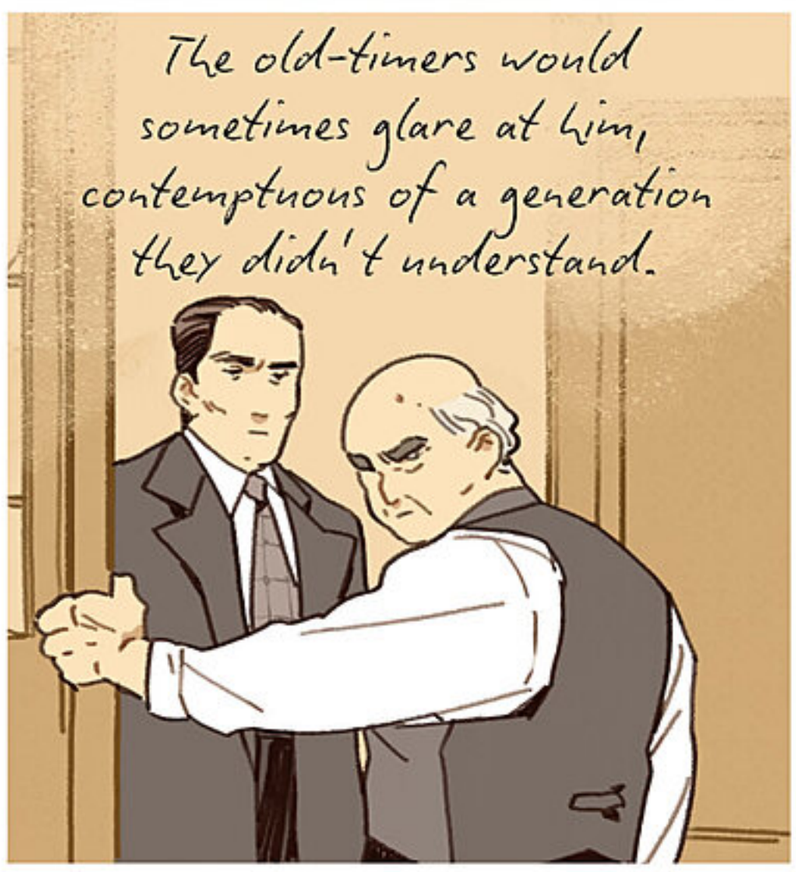
I THINK THE SENATOR'S UPCOMING CAMPAIGN COULD USE SOME FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM HIS FRIENDS IN THE IMPORT-EXPORT BUSINESS.

THE LAST THING HE NEEDS IS THE DOCKERS TO STRIKE. WE JUST HAVE TO REMIND HIM TO KEEP THE PRESS ON A SHORT LEASH FOR A WHILE.

HA HA! GOOD IDEA, JULES. HE SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO THAT. AFTER ALL, HE ALREADY DOES IT FOR HIMSELF.

THANKS, DON SAVERIO.


Eufrasio stayed true to himself: a loudmouth and a show-off, of epic proportions.


The old-timers would sometimes glare at him, contemptuous of a generation they didn't understand.

That was Eufrasio.

He'd always been like that.
Never caring about the present—only the future mattered.

He was impulsive, and he was my friend.

So from time to time, I'd bail him out.

COME ON, EUFRASIO.
HGMN...
YOU'RE HOME.

END OF THE LINE.

MGHN...

THE PARTY'S OVER FOR YOU.

OR...DO YOU NEED MY HELP TO TAKE OFF YOUR SHOES, TOO?

SHUT UP.

I SEE YOU'VE COME TO YOUR SENSES. I'LL LET YOU SOBER UP.

JUST TRY TO BE ON TIME TOMORROW.

NONE OF IT MATTERS.

YOU WASTE YOUR LIFE TRYING TO GET RICH. YOU THINK THAT'LL MAKE YOU HAPPY, AND YOU END UP BLOWING IT ALL ON ALCOHOL AND GAMBLING, BECAUSE THAT'S ALL YOU KNOW HOW TO DO.

HA HA...

THERE'LL BE NO HEAVEN FOR ME. I CAN'T BUY MY WAY IN, IT'S TOO LATE...

THAT'S THE BOOZE TALKING.

I WANT TO LEAVE.

SHIT...I WANT *OUT* OF HERE.

I'M SO SICK OF IT ALL. I CAN'T STAND THEIR PETTY LITTLE SCHEMES...I'M ALWAYS AIMING FOR SOMETHING BIGGER. IT'S NEVER ENOUGH.

YOU CAN STILL BE HAPPY, MY FRIEND.

THE WORLD IS AT OUR FINGERTIPS.

HAHA!

OH, JULES, OL' PAL, WHAT KIND OF FANTASY WORLD DO YOU LIVE IN? JUST STAY POSITIVE AND EVERYTHING WILL BE OK?

YOU THINK FATE GIVES THE SLIGHTEST SHIT ABOUT YOU?

I...I GAVE UP *EVERYTHING* TO GET WHERE I AM.

ONE MORNING I WAS IN ITALY, AND THE NEXT, ON A BOAT HEADED TO AMERICA. I HAD TO TAKE MY DESTINY INTO MY OWN HANDS, WITHOUT ANYONE ELSE'S HELP, IN ORDER TO MAKE A PLACE FOR MYSELF.

I DID EVERYTHING I COULD TO BELONG, AND NOW, **NOW**, I FINALLY FEEL LIKE I AM SOMEBODY. LIKE I EXIST.

SO YEAH, BELIEVING IN SOMETHING AND DOING ALL YOU CAN TO MAKE IT HAPPEN *DOES* WORK. IT'S THE ONLY WAY OUT.

WE WORKED HARD—HARDER THAN ANYONE—AND LOOK WHERE WE ARE NOW! THE WORLD IS OURS. I CAN BE HAPPY. **WE** CAN BE HAPPY.

JULES...WE'VE ALL BEEN FORCED ONTO A BOAT, AND NONE OF US WILL EVER BE THE CAPTAIN. DON'T YOU SEE?

NOW LISTEN UP.

ALL THE MONEY IN THE WORLD, THE FANCY SUITS, FRIENDS, LOVERS...NONE OF IT CAN EVER MAKE UP FOR ALL OF OUR MISTAKES.

MAYBE WE WILL MAKE IT TO THE TOP. YOU'RE CLEVER, JULES, I KNOW *YOU'LL* MAKE IT. BUT YOU'LL ALWAYS WANT MORE THAN WHAT YOU'VE GOT.

WE'LL NEVER *TRULY* BE HAPPY.

HEH. IT'S OK TO BE SAD, JULES, OL' PAL.

YOU'RE ONLY HUMAN. FATE'S GOT NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.

SORRY I'M LATE. EUFRASIO NEEDED HELP—

WHAT THE *HELL* IS THIS CONTRACT YOU NEGOTIATED FOR ME?!

WHAT'D YOU SAY?!

I STOP SUPERVISING YOU FOR *ONE* SECOND, AND YOU STICK ME WITH THE MOST INSULTING DEAL I'VE EVER SEEN?!

OH, SORRY! I FORGOT, WE'RE JUST PARTNERS! WHAT COULD POSSIBLY BE THE PROBLEM?!

BACK IN CHICAGO, I NEVER WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED A DEAL LIKE THIS!

ADAM, CALM DOWN, PLEASE.

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S THE CITY DOING THIS TO YOU, OR IF YOU EVEN REALIZE HOW BADLY YOU'RE SCREWING UP.

WE LEFT CHICAGO TO BUILD SOMETHING NEW HERE. *TOGETHER*. ALL THE SACRIFICES I MADE WERE FOR *US*.

I'VE BEEN BUSY. FOR THE PAST FEW WEEKS, SAVERIO HAS HAD OTHER PRIORITIES BESIDES BOOTLEGGING. ONE DELIVERY ISN'T SO BAD, FOR STARTERS, AND EUFR—

QUIT TALKING ABOUT HIM. THAT'S NO REASON TO PUT THE FAMILY'S BUSINESS AHEAD OF OURS.

ADAM, LISTEN...I'M *SORRY* ABOUT THE DELIVERY. I DIDN'T MEAN TO UPSET YOU.

THE DON KNOWS YOU'RE A GOOD ASSOCIATE. I DOUBT HE MEANT TO INSULT YOU.

IT'S JUST THAT...WE HAVE OUR PLANS, BUT...I HAVE MY OWN NOW, TOO. THAT DOESN'T MEAN I DON'T THINK ABOUT US...

DO YOU SEE?

ADAM?

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

I HAVE A MEETING WITH OTHER PARTNERS.

I DON'T KNOW WHEN I'LL BE HOME. LOCK THE DOOR WHEN YOU LEAVE.

SLAM!!

!!

SLAM!

Peace was short-lived.

The New
OFFICIALS BUST
HUGE SMUGGLE

Heaviest catch in 4 Years : a lead to stop organized crime in New-York?

ANOTHER SHIPMENT WAS INTERCEPTED LAST NIGHT. BUSINESS IS PARALYZED ON THE LOWER EAST SIDE.

THAT'S THE THIRD TIME THIS MONTH. NOT TO MENTION THE FACT THAT THEY'VE RAIDED OUR BARS AND SEARCHED OUR HOTELS FROM TOP TO BOTTOM.

BAD LUCK IS ONE THING, BUT I KNOW WHEN I'M BEING PLAYED FOR A FOOL.

THIS IS NO SIMPLE COINCIDENCE. IF THE FEDS WERE REALLY THAT GOOD, THEY'D HAVE PUT US ALL BEHIND BARS A LONG TIME AGO.

WE'VE GOT A MOLE.

IN LIGHT OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES, THE MEETING OF THE FAMILY HEADS WILL BE HELD ELSEWHERE, AT 625 MCFALL ROAD, AND HAS BEEN MOVED TO TOMORROW NIGHT. THE REPRESENTATIVES HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED AND ARE ALREADY THERE.

THE NEW ADDRESS HAS ONLY BEEN GIVEN TO THE OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PEOPLE IN THIS ROOM.

GIVEN THIS LATEST TURN OF EVENTS, I'LL BE TAKING CARE OF FAMILY BUSINESS AND WON'T BE PRESENT. I'M COUNTING ON THE CAPOS AND UNDER-BOSSES TO REPRESENT US. MAKE US ALL PROUD.

I URGE YOU TO EXERCISE EXTREME CAUTION, AND TO REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY.

HEY, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

OH, GET OFF MY BACK.

The New York

OFFICIALS BUST OU
IGE SMUGGLED SHIPE

Heaviest catch
4 Years: a lead
top organized
in New York?

BAR-RI

ACTING BORED IN THE MIDDLE OF A CRISIS MEETING, IN FRONT OF THE DON? DO YOU WANT TO END UP AT THE BOTTOM OF THE HUDSON?

LAY OFF, MY MIND WAS WANDERING. I CAN'T STAND ALL OF THIS OFFICIAL BULLSHIT! IT'S NOT AS IF WE AREN'T GOING TO FIND THIS MOLE SOON...

THIS IS SERIOUS! AT LEAST ACT LIKE IT CONCERNS YOU!

ANYWAY...KEEP A LOW PROFILE TOMORROW, AND YOU SHOULD BE FI—

OH, I'M NOT COMING.

WHAT?!

EUFRASIO, WHAT ARE YOU...? THIS IS AN IMPORTANT MEETING! ALL THE BIG SHOTS FROM ALL THE MAJOR CITIES WILL BE THERE! SOBER UP AND COME TO YOUR SENSES!

IT'S ALREADY BEEN POSTPONED THREE TIMES, JULES! EITHER IT'S IMPORTANT, OR IT CAN WAIT!

DON'T YOU SEE WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY THIS IS FOR US?

LISTEN, BROTHER, SEIZE THE CHANCE IF YOU WANT TO, BUT I GOT OTHER PLANS THAT NIGHT.

GO PLAY BOSS, MAKE SOME CONTACTS, AND GIVE ME THE DETAILS WHEN THE PARTY'S OVER.

EUFRASIO??

YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS?!

Goddamn it, Eufrasio!!!

WHAT A PAIN!

HE CAN'T BE SERIOUS...THIS ISN'T HOW YOU DO BUSINESS! THE FAMILY BOSSES WILL BE THERE, DAMN IT!

THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME I'VE WARNED YOU THAT HE CAN'T BE TRUSTED.

HE'S ONLY COMMITTED WHEN IT SUITS HIM!

I WAS COUNTING ON HIM TO HELP ME GET THROUGH OLD MORETTI'S BULLSHIT...EUFRASIO, YOU LITTLE ASSHOLE.

LISTEN, JULES. YOU KNOW WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

THIS IS AN UNHOPED-FOR OPPORTUNITY. YOU KNOW WHAT'S AT STAKE HERE. NOW'S THE TIME TO MAKE ALLIES. AND ABOVE ALL, DON'T FORGET...

NO MATTER WHAT DECISIONS YOU MAKE TONIGHT, I'M PROUD OF YOU. I HAVE EVERY CONFIDENCE IN YOU.

DELIGHTED, MR. PINELLI.

THE PLEASURE IS MINE, MR. TIVOLI. I'VE HEARD A GREAT DEAL ABOUT YOU. BUT NOT THAT YOU WERE SO YOUNG.

WE BOTH KNOW THAT TALENT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH AGE.

This feeling of finally being a part of something bigger.

HAH! HE'S NOT ONLY TALENTED, BUT ALSO QUICK-WITTED. MIND IF I BORROW HIM?

OF COURSE NOT. BRING HIM BACK IN ONE PIECE.

This feeling of being listened to and being equal to others.

THERE'S ANOTHER CAR OUTSIDE.

KEEP AN EYE ON IT. ONE OF US ISN'T HERE YET, BUT TAKE NO CHANCES.

WE'LL TAKE A LOOK.

MY FRIENDS IN LOS ANGELES AND I ARE VERY INTERESTED IN YOUR SKILLS.

SORRY, BUT I'M LOYAL TO DON SAVERIO.

NO, DON'T APOLOGIZE. LOYALTY IS HIGHLY VALUED THESE DAYS.

VERY KIND OF YOU.

Which made it even harder to face reality when it came calling.

IN THAT CASE, PERHAPS I COULD SPEAK WITH OUR COMMON FRIEND, SO WE CAN ALL DO BUSINESS TOGETH—

BANG

Enfrasio was right.
I liked being a leader.

JULES? I'D LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOU TO SOMEONE.

A FRIEND FROM LOS ANGELES HAS HEARD GOOD THINGS ABOUT YOUR WORK, AND WANTS TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

I enjoyed all the effusive praise.

PINELLI? THIS IS JULES TIVOLI, THE FRIEND OF MINE YOU WANTED TO MEET.

The party was over.

<THE FEDS!>

BANG

BANG

<GRAB EVERYTHING AND GET OUT AS FAST AS YOU CAN!>

BANG

BANG

BANG

<ARE YOU SAVERIO'S CAPO?!>

<WHAT ARE YOU STILL DOING HERE?!>

I—

<THEY'VE BLOCKED OFF THE FRONT OF THE HOUSE! HURRY, GET OUT BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!>

<GET OUT!!>

BANG!

<DON'T SHOOT!>

<LEAVE THAT TO THE SOLDIERS! THEY HAVE NOTHING ON YOU!>

BANG!

CRACK!

<THEY BROKE DOWN THE BACK DOOR! THE HOUSE IS SURROUNDED!>

<FIND A WAY OUT!>

DROP YOUR WEAPONS!

<DON'T LET THEM F—!">

—!

—M!

AH!
MY GOD...
NO!
C'MON!
PLEASE...OPEN UP, OPEN UP...
CRASH!!

WAKE UP!

SLAP!

C'MON NOW!!

CONCENTRATE. WHO WAS AT THAT FANCY MEETING OF YOURS?

WE GOT WIND OF YOUR LITTLE FAMILY GATHERING. SOME FAT CATS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE THERE. OUR GUYS GOT TRIGGER-HAPPY, AND THINGS GOT OUT OF HAND.

THE ONES WE ARRESTED WILL BE SPILLING THEIR GUTS SOON, AND IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THEY SELL YOU OUT. SO DO YOURSELF A FAVOR—IF YOU TALK FIRST, WE CAN WORK SOMETHING OUT. WE JUST NEED NAMES.

GHM...I WANT A LAWYER.

SO YOU HAVE SOMETHING TO HIDE. YOU AIN'T GETTING *SHIT*, YOU LITTLE CREEP.

GIVE US ANSWERS, AND WITH ANY LUCK, YOU WON'T GO TO THE BIG HOUSE FOR TEN YEARS. WITH YOUR PRETTY FACE, YOU'LL BE *REAL* POPULAR IN THERE.

SO FOR THE LAST TIME... **WHO WAS AT THAT MEETING?**

HA HA...IF YOU'RE SCARED OF MY LAWYER, JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE **THEIRS.**

WITHOUT PROVOCATION, YOU OPENED FIRE ON THE REPRESENTATIVES OF OVER FIFTY MAJOR BUSINESSES AND UNIONS. YOU INTERRUPTED A LEGAL MEETING AND TRESPASSED ON PRIVATE PROPERTY.

IT DOESN'T BOTHER ME ONE BIT TO AWAIT TRIAL HERE WITH Y-

SLAP!

AH!!

DON'T TAKE US FOR IDIOTS! SOME OF THOSE GUYS HAVE A RAP SHEET LONGER THAN MY ARM!

YOU THINK THEY'LL PROTECT YOU? THEY'LL THROW YOU TO THE SHARKS THE FIRST CHANCE THEY GET!

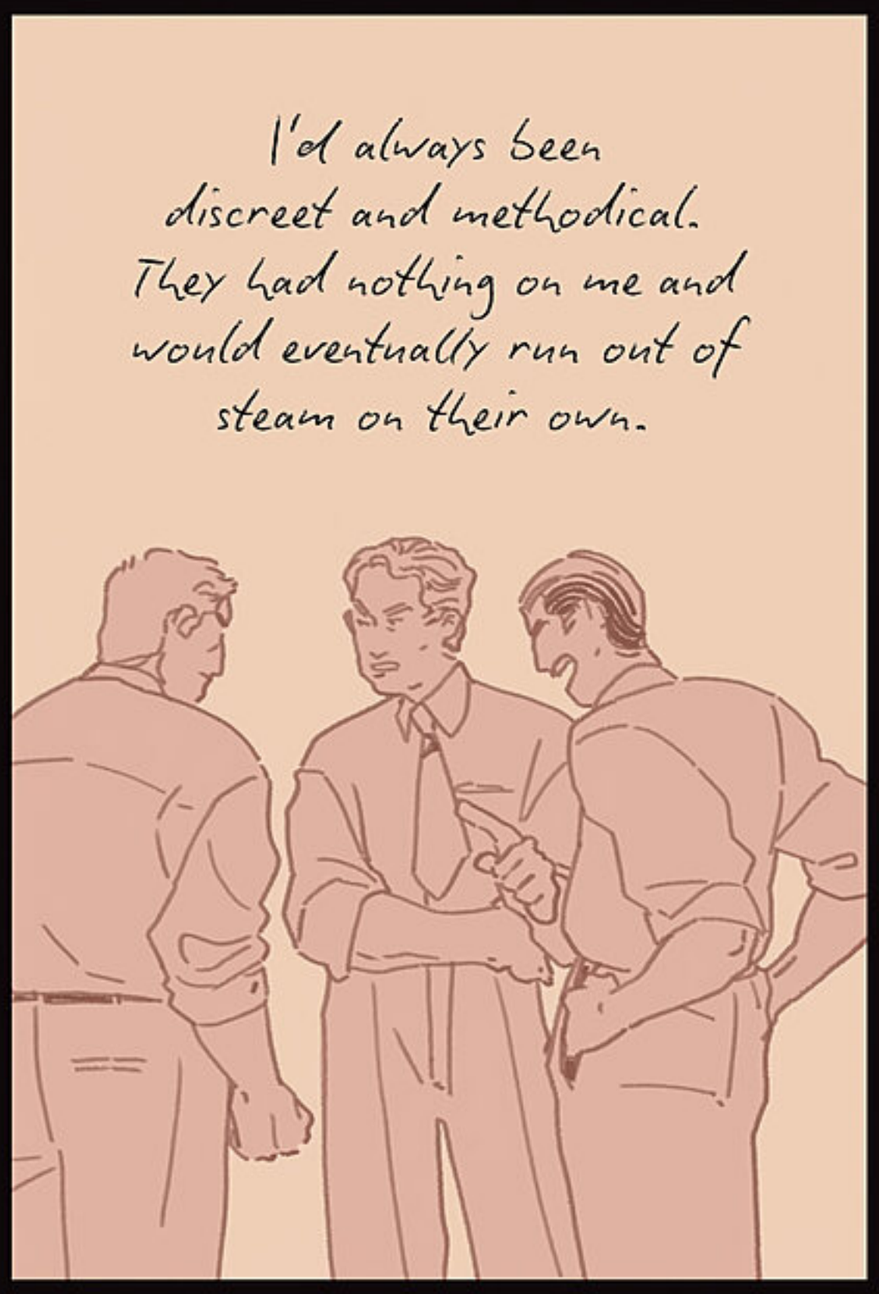
HONOR AIN'T GONNA SAVE YOUR HIDE.

~!!

They kept yelling for a while, so I kept playing tough guy.

Breaking omertà was out of the question.

I'd always been discreet and methodical. They had nothing on me and would eventually run out of steam on their own.



So we all played our part, like in some kind of lousy stage play...

...and then we'd all go home, after the ending we all knew was coming.

BUT WE HAVE EVERY REASON TO BELIEVE THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO HELP US SORT OUT THE "LEGAL" AFFAIRS OF THOSE PRESENT TONIGHT.
I was so sure of myself that the thought of their getting to me was inconceivable.

UGLY BUSINESS, BACK IN CHICAGO. IT REALLY TURNED EVERYONE AGAINST HIM. HE HAD SUCH A PROMISING CAREER, TOO. WE HAVE ENOUGH EVIDENCE TO THROW HIM IN PRISON FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE.

HE MIGHT EVEN JOIN HIS OLD BUDDY SCHIRO. I'M SURE THEY'LL HAVE PLENTY TO TALK ABOUT.

NOTHING CAN SAVE HIM NOW. UNLESS... YOU WERE TO KINDLY TELL US WHO YOUR CONTACTS ARE, AND ABOUT THEIR NEXT MOVES.

BUT HEY, SINCE YOU HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH ANY OF THIS, I GUESS THERE'S NO POINT, *HM*?

THINK.

NEW YORK STILL ENFORCES THE DEATH PENALTY, YOU KNOW.

I had to improvise.

They put me under police protection—the label they stick on snitches. It was like a target on my back.

"Police protection." That meant I was a dead man, but the cops were still keeping an eye on me.

That scared me.

So I did the only thing I could do, at the time.

ANSWER, ANSWER, PLEASE...

C'MON...

PICK UP!!

HELLO?

ADAM!! IT'S ME, JULES!

JULES?! ARE YOU OK?! WHERE ARE YOU?

I'M FINE, I—

THE FEDS RAIDED US, THERE WAS A GUNFIGHT... SOMEBODY LEAKED THE ADDRESS. THEY ARRESTED ME.

ARE YOU HURT?

THAT'S NOT THE WORST OF IT.

WHAT'S GOING ON?

I...

I CAVED, ADAM.

ARE YOU ALONE? DID ANYONE ELSE GET AWAY?

NO, JUST ME. I CAN'T GO BACK TO SEE THE DON. IT WOULD BE TOO SUSPICIOUS...

QUICK, GET BACK HERE. WE'LL FIND A SOLUTION.

AND MAKE SURE NOBODY SEES YOU. I'LL BE WAITING. OKAY?

YEAH...OK.

NOT A WORD TO ANYONE.

YEAH... HEH. IT'S A GOOD THING EUFRASIO WASN'T THERE. WITH EVERYTHING THE COPS HAVE ON HIM, HE SURE PICKED A FINE TIME TO DISAPP—

JULES?

HELLO? *JULES?*

ADAM...

I THINK I KNOW WHO THE MOLE IS.

...

I BROKE OMERTÀ, ADAM.

DAMN IT!

I PLAYED THE WISE GUY AND THOUGHT I'D GET AWAY WITH IT.

UNTIL THAT COP PULLED OUT YOUR FILE...

THEY HAD SO MANY PICTURES OF YOU, OF US...NEWS CLIPPINGS...

I COULDN'T LET THEM DO IT. THEY WERE THREATENING LIFE IMPRISONMENT, THE DEATH PENALTY...

I COULDN'T BEAR IT, YOU UNDERSTAND?

SO I TALKED...

I DROPPED SOME NAMES, AND A FEW DELIVERY DATES.

I'M A SNITCH.
A GODDAMN *SNITCH*.

IF SAVERIO FINDS OUT,
I'M DEAD...I'M *SCREWED*, ADAM!
IT...IT WAS EUFRASIO, FROM
THE VERY BEGINNING...

HE WAS IN ALL THE FAMILY
COMMITTEES, HE HAD ALL THE
DATES, ALL THE ADDRESSES...AND...
HE REALLY WANTED TO LEAVE.
HE WANTED TO GO FAR AWAY,
I COULD TELL...

HOW DID I NOT SEE
THIS COMING?

I...ADAM, I DON'T
KNOW WHAT TO DO...

JULES, CALM DOWN. THEY
DON'T HAVE TO KNOW ALL
THAT. AND YOU'RE CLEAN. THE
COPS HAVE NOTHING ON YOU.

EVERYTHING ELSE NEEDS
TO BE KEPT QUIET.

LIE LOW FOR 24 HOURS,
UNTIL THIS BLOWS OVER.
DID ANYONE SEE YOU
LEAVE?

NO...

GOOD. THE POLICE WON'T RAT YOU OUT.
THEY WANT TO BRING DOWN SAVERIO AND
HIS WHOLE NETWORK TOO BADLY FOR THAT.

DON'T WORRY, EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE.

IF THE COPS GET THEIR HANDS ON EUFRASIO, THE FAMILY WILL BE PARANOID ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THAT HE'S THE ONE WHO SOLD THEM OUT TO THE FEDS.

I DON'T GET WHY HE DID IT...

MONEY PROBLEMS, THE LAW ON HIS TAIL...THE ENDS ALWAYS JUSTIFY THE MEANS.

YOU DID EVERYTHING YOU COULD, JULES.

STOP TORTURING YOURSELF.

SOMETIMES LIFE ISN'T FAIR.

HEH...AT LEAST WE WON ONE BATTLE. OLD SCHIRO WOULD HAVE BEEN THRILLED TO SEE ME TAKE A FALL.

AND HE ALMOST SUCCEEDED, TOO.

HUH?

HOW DID YOU KNOW IT WAS THE SCHIRO CASE THEY WERE USING AGAINST YOU?

I NEVER TOLD YOU WHAT WAS IN THEIR FILES.

HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT WAS THE ONE THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT?

YOU'VE HAD A LONG CAREER...

ADAM?

ADAM?

YOU DIDN'T KNOW, DID YOU?

NO...

THAT CASE HAD BECOME TOO BIG. IT FOLLOWED US EVEN AFTER WE LEFT CHICAGO.

WH-?! NO CHOICE?!

KRASH

THEY TRANSFERRED THE CASE FILES AND CAUGHT UP WITH ME HERE. I HAD NO CHOICE.

HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?! WHY DIDN'T YOU *TELL* ME?!

IT'S REACTIONS LIKE THIS THAT KEEP ME FROM TALKING TO YOU ABOUT CERTAIN THINGS.

YOU'RE FAR TOO SENSITIVE.

TOO *SENSITIVE*?! ADAM, I JUST SPENT HOURS GETTING SMACKED AROUND BY THE COPS, REFUSING TO SAY A SINGLE WORD ABOUT OUR BUSINESS, AND *THIS* IS HOW YOU REPAY ME?!

BY MAKING ME YOUR **ACCOMPLICE**? YOU THREW ME TO THE WOLVES, ADAM! *YOU SET ME UP!*

YOU'VE BEEN LYING TO ME FOR WHAT, MONTHS? *YEARS?* THAT'S WHAT THOSE LATE-NIGHT MEETINGS WERE? YOU WERE TELLING THEM EVERYTHING I SAID?

AND YOU CALL **ME** TOO SENSITIVE?!

DAMN IT, *PLEASE* TELL ME YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT ALL THIS!

I KNEW YOU'D MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION.

HA...

HAH. UNBELIEVABLE.

I BLAMED EUFRASIO.

YOU WERE GOING TO **LET ME ACCUSE** EUFRASIO.

I DIDN'T KNOW THEY WERE GOING TO SHOOT AT YOU.

DON'T TOUCH ME.

I STILL HAVE THEIR BLOOD ON MY HANDS.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO FIX YOUR BULLSHIT.

OR RAT YOU OUT.
I HAVEN'T DECIDED YET.

I WOULDN'T DO THAT, IF I WERE YOU.

WHAT WILL YOU TELL THEM? THAT YOU SAW MY FILE AT THE POLICE STATION? THAT *I'M* BEHIND ALL OF THIS? MOST OF THE CONTACTS I HAVE WERE MADE THROUGH *YOU*. THEY'LL SUSPECT YOU AS MUCH AS ME.

AND WHAT A COINCIDENCE! YOU'RE THE FIRST TO LEAVE THE POLICE STATION, AFTER TAKING A COUPLE OF PUNCHES, WITHOUT BEING CHARGED. WHAT DO YOU THINK THEY'LL SEE WHEN THEIR GOLDEN BOY WALTZES IN TO DENOUNCE THE MOLE, AFTER HAVING TALKED TO THE POLICE? WHAT WILL THEY THINK OF OUR RELATIONSHIP?

TRUST ME, DEATH WON'T BE THE WORST PUNISHMENT THEY'LL HAVE IN STORE FOR YOU.

THEY PUT THEIR TRUST IN ME. NOT IN YOU. *FAMILY FIRST*.

YOUR INNOCENT LITTLE DELIVERY BOY ACT IS OVER.

I TOLD YOU, JULES, THE ENDS JUSTIFY THE MEANS.

YOU KNEW EXACTLY WHAT YOU WERE DOING WHEN YOU SOLD THEM OUT. YOU MADE A CHOICE.

YOU CHOSE **US** INSTEAD OF **THEM.**

EVERYTHING I DID, I DID IT TO PROTECT US. YOU DID THE SAME THING, BECAUSE YOU FELT IT WAS RIGHT.

SO WE'LL CARRY ON, JUST LIKE BEFORE. THESE SACRIFICES ARE DIFFICULT, BUT NECESSARY.

KEEP A LOW PROFILE, AND I'LL COVER FOR YOU. BUT YOU'LL HAVE TO PROVE TO THEM THEY CAN STILL TRUST YOU.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN?!

IT'S SIMPLE. YOU FIND SOMEONE TO TAKE THE FALL.

AND WE BOTH KNOW WHO THAT IS.

WH...NO, ADAM, YOU CAN'T ASK ME THAT. YOU WOULDN'T DARE...

YOU *KNOW* IT'S THE ONLY SOLUTION.

SHUT UP! I'VE HEARD ENOUGH! THE ANSWER IS NO! I CAN'T!

YOU'RE ON YOUR OWN!

I'M NO TRAITOR, AND I'M *NOT* GOING TO HURT MY FR—?!

THEN WHAT, JULES?

GOT A BETTER IDEA? SOONER OR LATER THEY **WILL** COME DOWN ON SOMEONE, SO WHEN THAT TIME COMES, YOU'D BETTER HOPE YOU'RE NOT THE ONE THEY SUSPECT.

YOU'RE SMART, SO LISTEN CAREFULLY. I WON'T SAY IT AGAIN. IF I GO DOWN, *YOU'RE* GOING DOWN WITH ME.

JUST CALM DOWN. I'VE BEEN WHERE YOU ARE, TOO. I KNOW IT'S HARD, BUT IT'S NECESSARY.

YOU'RE INDISPENSABLE. THEY LOVE YOU. *I* LOVE YOU.

An innocent life was at stake. I had to act.

It was a nightmare.
All I wanted was to wake up.

I HEARD ABOUT THE MEETING.

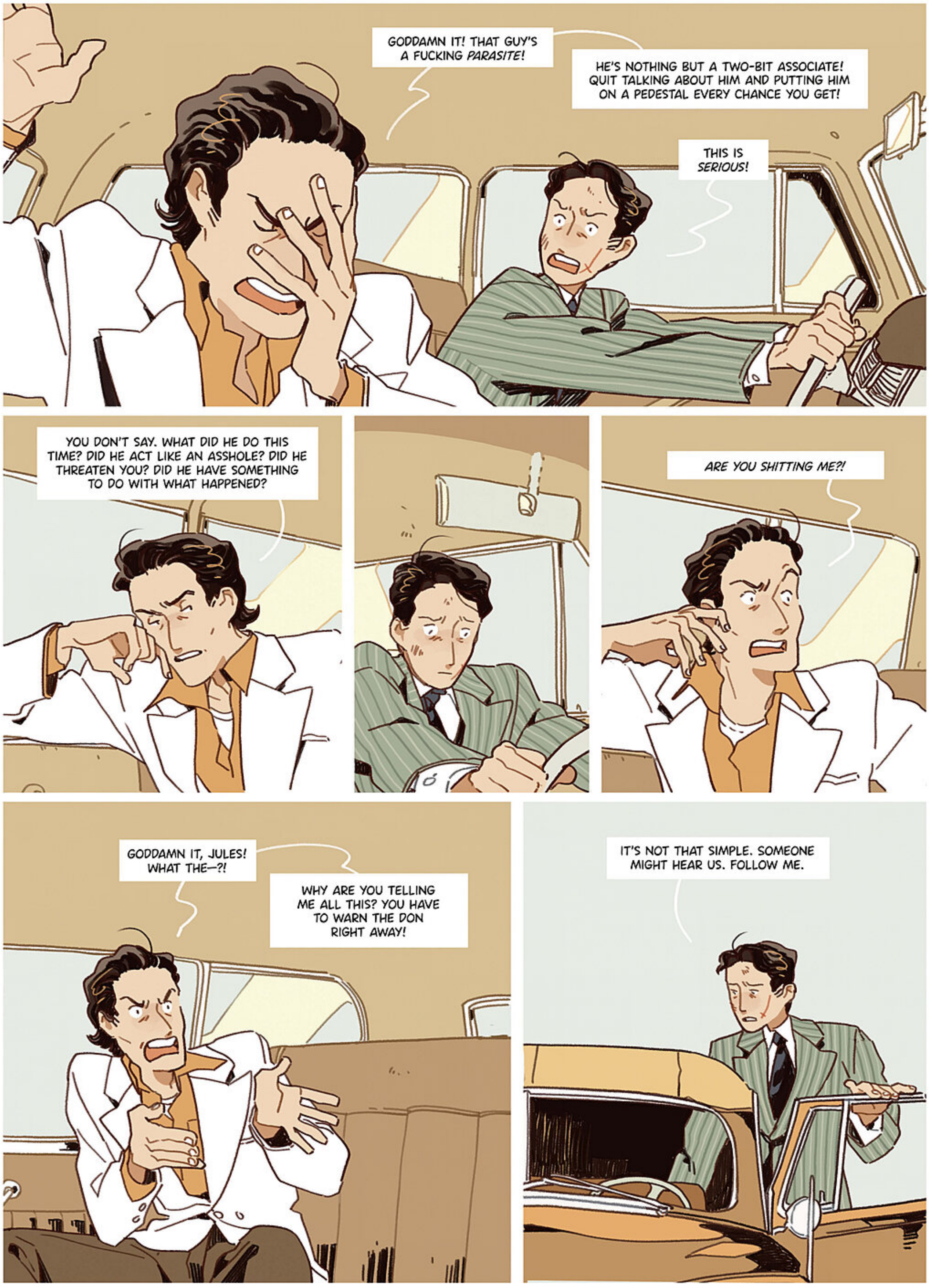
YOU'RE LUCKY YOU GOT OUTTA THERE. IF I'D BEEN THERE, THEY WOULD HAVE SHOT ME DEAD. IS THAT WHAT YOU WANTED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?

...

HEY, DON'T WORRY, JULES, OL' PAL. IT WAS JUST A LITTLE INTERROGATION! AND I THINK ALL THOSE BRUISES ON YOUR MUG ARE SEXY. DAMES LOVE THAT.

SAVERIO'S HAPPY. YOU MADE IT THROUGH YOUR FIRST ARREST! CONGRATULATIONS! HEY, WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM?

...ADAM'S THE PROBLEM.


GODDAMN IT! THAT GUY'S A FUCKING *PARASITE*!
HE'S NOTHING BUT A TWO-BIT ASSOCIATE! QUIT TALKING ABOUT HIM AND PUTTING HIM ON A PEDESTAL EVERY CHANCE YOU GET!
THIS IS *SERIOUS*!
YOU DON'T SAY. WHAT DID HE DO THIS TIME? DID HE ACT LIKE AN ASSHOLE? DID HE THREATEN YOU? DID HE HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH WHAT HAPPENED?
ARE YOU SHITTING ME?!
GODDAMN IT, JULES! WHAT THE—?!
WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME ALL THIS? YOU HAVE TO WARN THE DON RIGHT AWAY!
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE. SOMEONE MIGHT HEAR US. FOLLOW ME.

WOW. IS THIS YOUR NEW HOUSE?

NO, IT'S AN OLD HIDEOUT. WE WON'T BE INTERRUPTED HERE.

YOU SPARE NO EXPENSE.

OK, WE GO IN THERE, YOU EXPLAIN IT TO ME, AND THEN I'LL GO PUNCH ADAM'S TICKET. HE'S BEEN PLAYING WITH FIRE FOR TOO LONG.

SO HE WANTS TO FUCK WITH YOU? *FINE*. WE'LL BEAT HIM AT HIS OWN GAME. WE'LL FIND A WAY TO GET YOU OUT OF THIS IN ONE PIECE.

WE'LL SAVE YOU, JULES.

GO AHEAD.

TELL ME EVERYTHING, THERE MUST BE A SOLUTION-

CLAC!

...

...JULES?

An innocent life was at stake.
I had to act.

JULES?

So I saved myself.

JULES!
THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE HIDING!

I WASN'T HIDING.
EXCUSE ME? WHILE I WAS DOING ALL THE WORK, YOU WERE HERE LOUNGING AROUND!
WELL, *THAT'S* NEW.

CUT THE SARCASM, I'M THE BEARER OF GOOD TIDINGS! I JUST GOT OFF THE PHONE WITH CLAUDE, AND THE NEXT DOPE SHIPMENT WILL BE COMING THROUGH OUR REFINERIES.
BRAVO! AND YOU ACCOMPLISHED THIS MIRACLE ALL ALONE?
NOT EVERYONE HAS NATURAL CHARM LIKE MINE, *TESORO*.

YOU WERE RIGHT, EUFRASIO...

ABOUT...?

ABOUT WORK, THE FRENCH CONNECTION, ALL OF IT. THIS IS WHERE WE'RE MEANT TO BE.

OH, JULES, OL' PAL, IT'S LIKE EVERYTHING ELSE! THE GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER ACROSS THE SEA...

BUT THERE'S ONE THING I HAVE TO ADMIT...

PEDDLING HEROIN SHOULD ONLY BE DONE WITH A CIGARETTE IN HAND AND YOUR FEET IN THE OCEAN.

HA HA HA!

IT WOULDA BEEN GREAT, HUH?

EXCUSE ME?

IT WOULDA BEEN GREAT, IF YOU HADN'T KILLED ME THAT DAY.

HUH?

AHAHAHAHAHH...

AH...

HH...

...!

GHM...!

BLEUARGH!...

...

NGH...

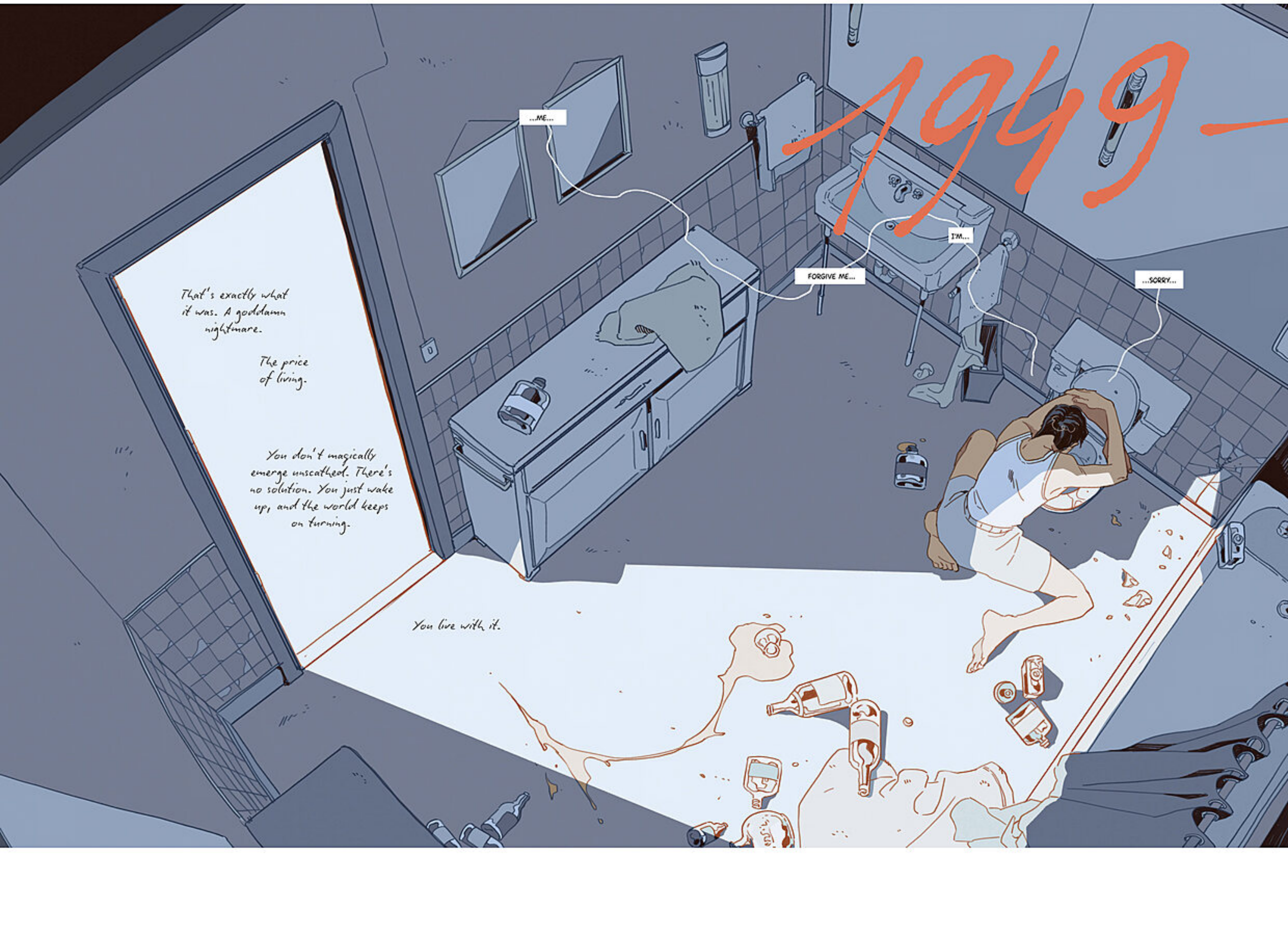
GHMB-!!

AH...!

...

NGH...

FORGIVE...


That's exactly what it was. A gooddamn nightmare.
The price of living.
You don't magically emerge unscathed. There's no solution. You just wake up, and the world keeps on turning.
You live with it.
1999
...ME...
FORGIVE ME...
I'M...
...SORRY...

SURE, I UNDERSTAND.

DON'T WORRY,
WE'LL WORK THINGS OUT.

WE JUST HAVE TO REMIND THEM WHO'S IN CHARGE. I WON'T TOLERATE ANY MORE UNPLEASANT SURPRISES.

GOODBYE. I'LL BE IN TOUCH.

A HOTEL OWNER REFUSES TO PAY.
THIS IS THE THIRD TIME HE'S LATE.

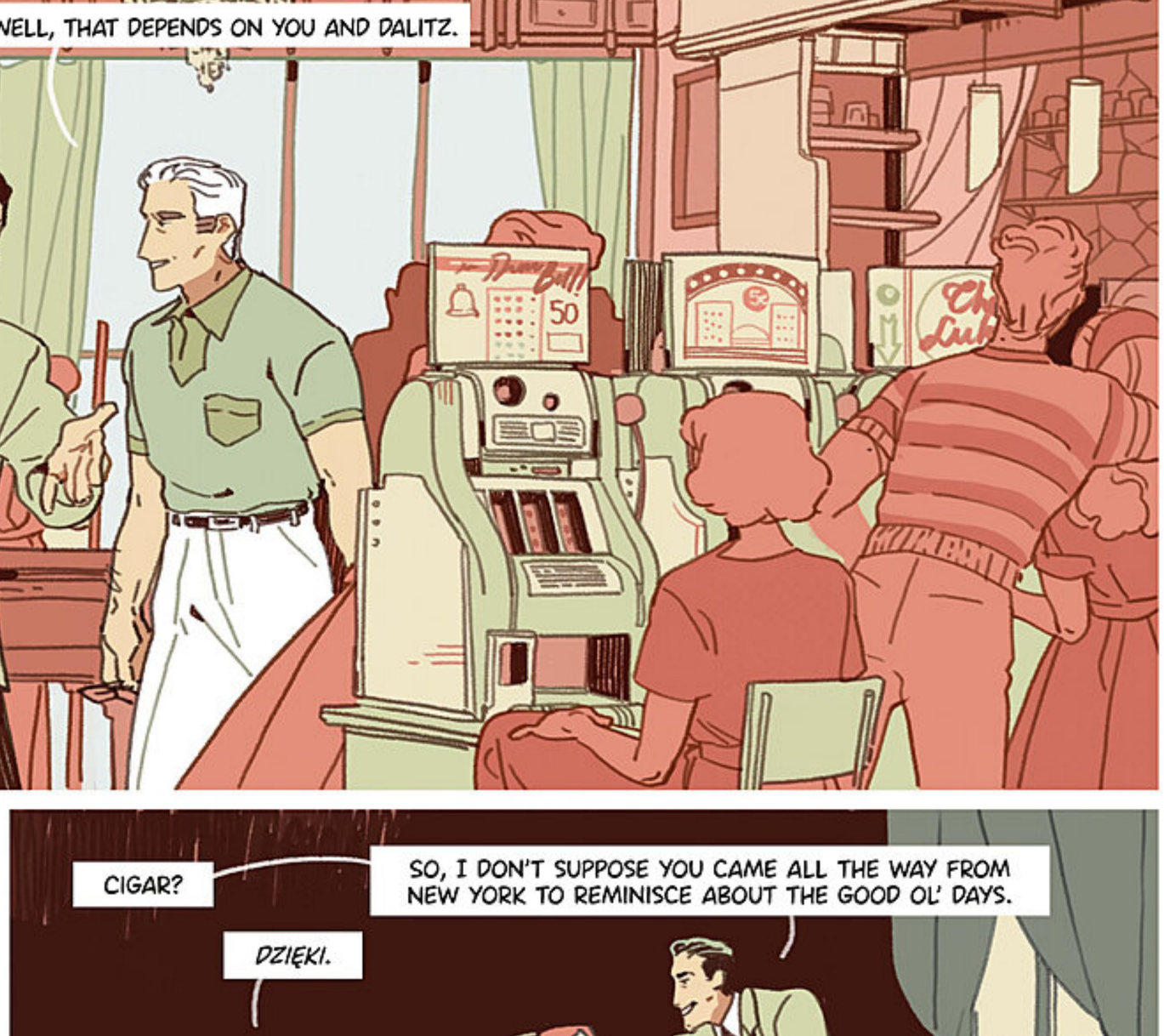
IT WILL BE DONE,
DON SAVERIO.

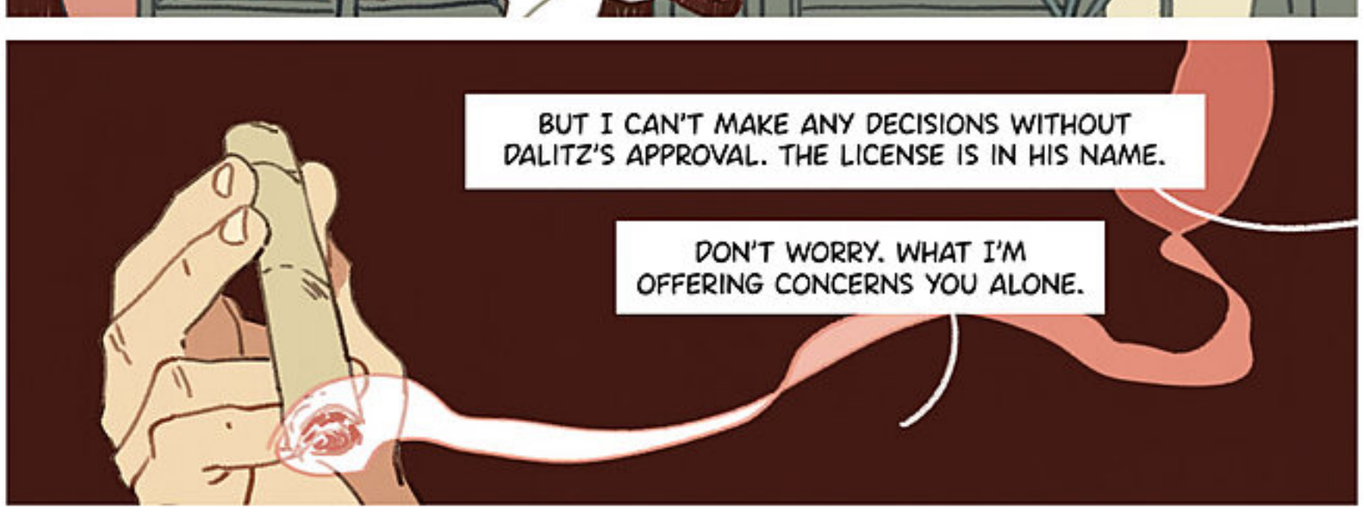
TAKE CARE OF IT. YOU'VE GOT CARTE BLANCHE.
BUT MAKE SURE YOU SEND A CLEAR MESSAGE.

WHEN WAS CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED?
IN '47. NASTY AFFAIR, BUT WE'RE UP AND RUNNING NOW.
IT'S IMPRESSIVE. CONGRATULATIONS, HETMAN. YOU'VE SURE COME A LONG WAY SINCE CHICAGO.
SAVOY Club
CLUB
STATE CAFE

THANK YOU, CZAR. I HEAR YOU'VE OUTDONE YOURSELF, TOO. OUR OLD SCHEMING FEELS FAR AWAY NOW...
WELL, THAT DEPENDS ON YOU AND DALITZ.
HAH!

I THINK WE'LL BE MORE COMFORTABLE INSIDE. AFTER YOU.


CIGAR?
SO, I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU CAME ALL THE WAY FROM NEW YORK TO REMINISCE ABOUT THE GOOD OL' DAYS.
DZIĘKI.


BUT I CAN'T MAKE ANY DECISIONS WITHOUT DALITZ'S APPROVAL. THE LICENSE IS IN HIS NAME.
DON'T WORRY. WHAT I'M OFFERING CONCERNS YOU ALONE.

I OWN SEVERAL IMPORT-EXPORT COMPANIES IN NEW YORK AND CHICAGO. YOU COULD ORDER YOUR EQUIPMENT FROM US, AND WOULD ONLY HAVE TO PAY A PART OF THE INVOICED AMOUNT. YOU'D KEEP THE OTHER SHARE, LET'S SAY A THIRD, AS A "GIFT," LAUNDERED BY THE COMPANY.

IN EXCHANGE, YOU LET US SEND A FEW GAMBLERS TO LAUNDER OUR MONEY IN YOUR CASINO, AND EVERYONE'S HAPPY.

THAT ALL SOUNDS GREAT, CZAR, BUT WHY SHOULD I ACCEPT YOUR OFFER AND NOT SOMEONE ELSE'S?

YOU HAVE A CHAIN OF HOTELS HERE, DON'T YOU? WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT EXPANDING TO NEW YORK?

THERE'S AN OPENING TO LEAD A HUGE CHAIN OVER THERE. IF YOU CAN CONVINCE DALITZ...I COULD PULL SOME STRINGS.

THAT'S QUITE A PROMISE YOU'RE MAKING...I'LL SEE WHAT I CAN DO.

YOU MENTIONED A PARTNER. HE ISN'T COMING TODAY?

ASSOCIATE. NO, UNFORTUNATELY HE COULDN'T MAKE IT.

BUT DON'T WORRY.

HE'S HANDLING THE FINAL TOUCHES.

YOU DID GOOD, JULES.

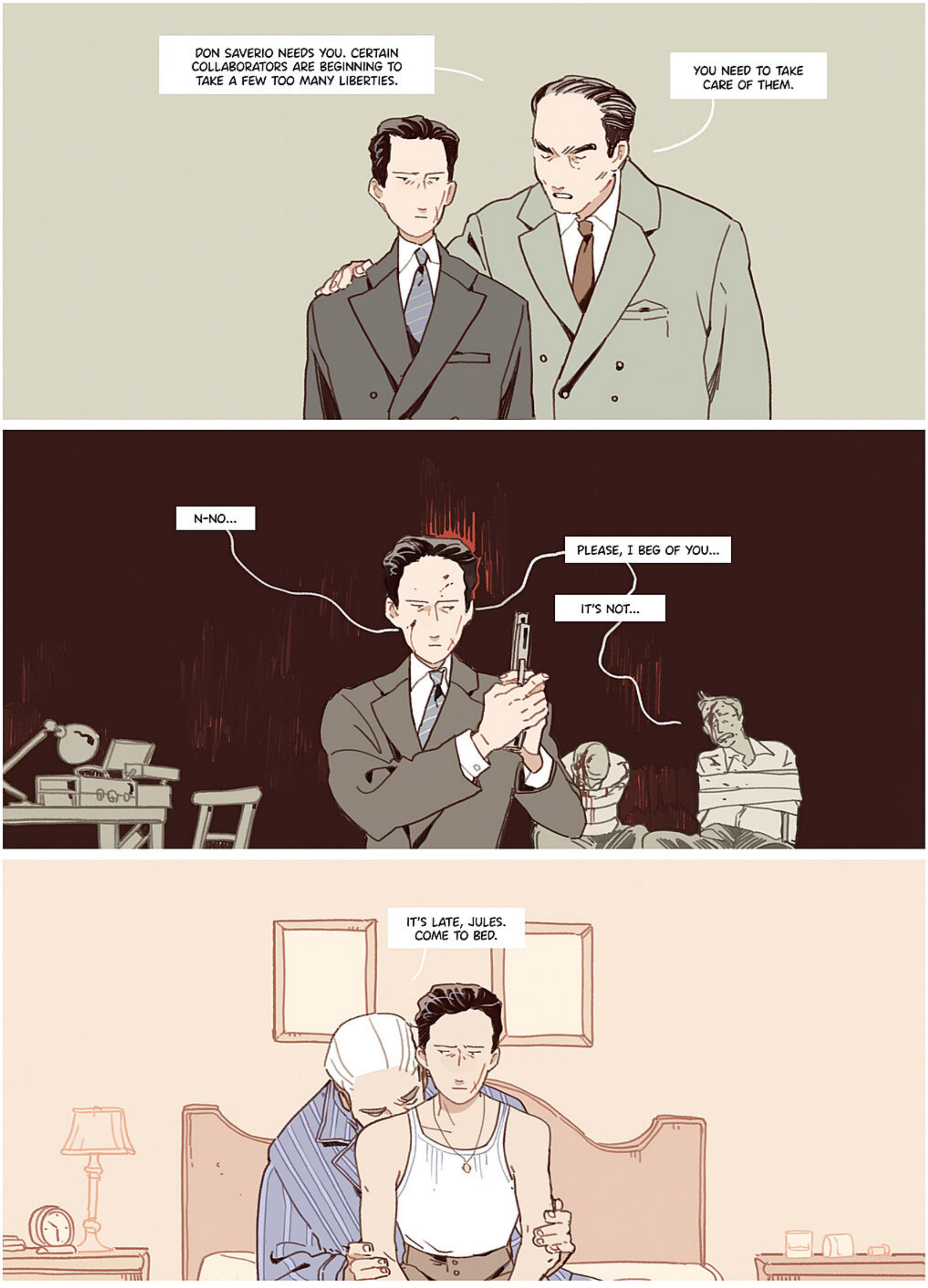
I SPOKE TO SAVERIO ABOUT AN OLD FRIEND OF MINE WHO COULD TAKE OVER THE BUSINESS. HE'S SO INDEBTED TO ME THAT HE'LL PAY US A PERCENTAGE OF ALL HIS PROFITS DIRECTLY.

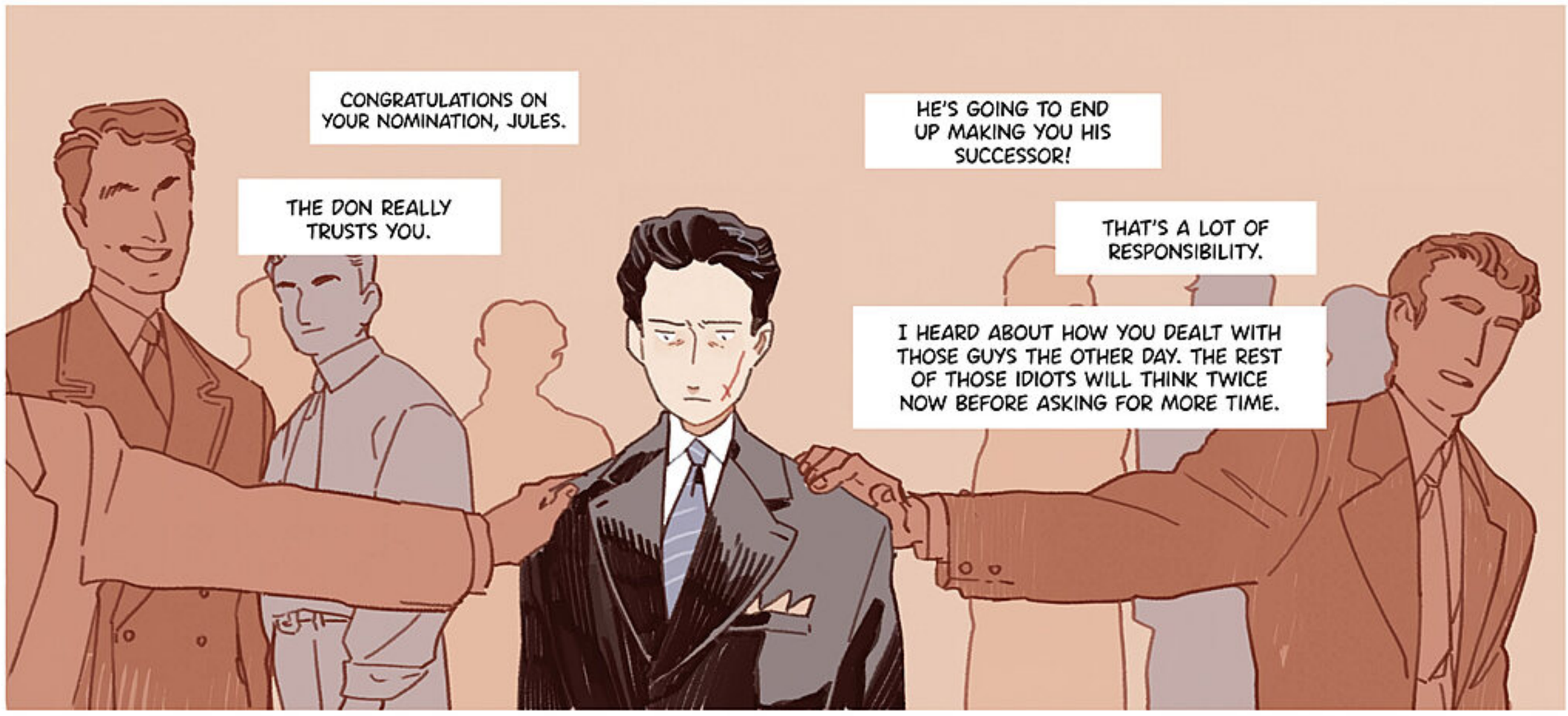
THAT OWNER WAS A NUISANCE. AND HIS DISAPPEARANCE IS A BOON TO US.

YOU CAN SPEND THE NIGHT HERE. THEY'VE DONE ALL THE HEAVY LIFTING FOR US. LET'S TAKE SOME TIME OFF.

I LOVE YOU, JULES.

YOU'RE DOING JUST FINE.


DON SAVERIO NEEDS YOU. CERTAIN COLLABORATORS ARE BEGINNING TO TAKE A FEW TOO MANY LIBERTIES.
YOU NEED TO TAKE CARE OF THEM.
N-NO...
PLEASE, I BEG OF YOU...
IT'S NOT...
IT'S LATE, JULES. COME TO BED.


CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NOMINATION, JULES.
THE DON REALLY TRUSTS YOU.
HE'S GOING TO END UP MAKING YOU HIS SUCCESSOR!
THAT'S A LOT OF RESPONSIBILITY.
I HEARD ABOUT HOW YOU DEALT WITH THOSE GUYS THE OTHER DAY. THE REST OF THOSE IDIOTS WILL THINK TWICE NOW BEFORE ASKING FOR MORE TIME.

YOU STILL HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO. DON'T LET IT GO TO YOUR HEAD. JUST REMEMBER: IT'S US OR THEM.

10¢
SELLING OUT
SOAP BAR
"All is Fresh"
GOODBYE, CHARLES. I HOPE I WON'T HAVE TO COME BACK AGAIN.
N-NO, MR. TIVOLI. I PROMISE, IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN...
G-GOODBYE...
DON'T WAST FOO
Willow &
Fine Tailoring
New York
New Sto
SUITS

WHAT THE...

QUIT LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT.

YOU THINK LIFE IS EASY? THAT YOU GET WHATEVER YOU WANT WITHOUT HAVING TO MAKE ANY SACRIFICES?
LIFE ISN'T AS GENEROUS AS YOU THINK. I DESERVE MY PLACE HERE. I'VE LEARNED TO SURVIVE.

I MADE THE RIGHT CHOICE. EVERYTHING'S FINE NOW.
I HAD TO, I—
I'M NOT A BAD PERSON.

STOP IT!

WIPE THAT LOOK OFF YOUR FACE!

BANG!
BANG!

HAAAAA!!

HAA

FUCK!
FUCK!!
FUCK..!!

HAHAHAHA

JULES? ARE YOU WITH US?

HM?

YES, SORRY.

LET'S CONTINUE.

THE FAMILY AND I WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE YOU ON YOUR EXCELLENT WORK THIS YEAR.

YOU KEPT A COOL HEAD DURING THESE TROUBLED TIMES. YOU HELPED US TURN THINGS AROUND, AND ALLOWED US TO FLUSH OUT THE MOLE.

AND TO THINK THE FAMILY TRUSTED EUFRASIO...MAY HE BURN IN HELL!

ABOVE AND BEYOND YOUR TALENTS, WHAT WE VALUE MOST IS THAT WE CAN TRUST YOU. WE ADMIRE YOUR ATTENTION TO DETAIL, YOUR PATIENCE, YOUR DISCRETION... AS WELL AS YOUR INSIGHT.

I'M NOT SURE I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE GETTING AT, SIR.

TIMES ARE CHANGING, JULES.

THE RULES ARE CHANGING, TOO.

WE HAVE AN IRON GRIP ON NEW YORK, AND TRUSTY REPRESENTATIVES IN OTHER STATES AS WELL.

OUR FAMILY IS SOLID, OUR EMPIRE IS GROWING...BUT IT'S GROWING IN **AMERICA**.

THE UNITED STATES IS NOT AN END IN ITSELF. IT'S MERELY THE FOUNDATION OF AN EMPIRE WITHOUT BORDERS.

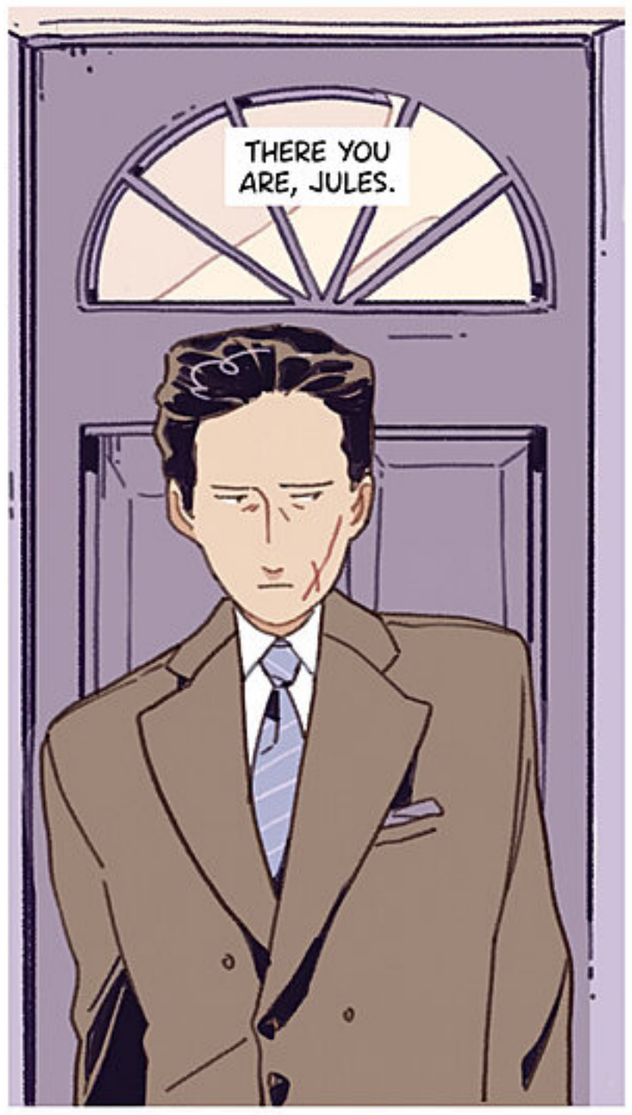
THIS POST-WAR WORLD IS NOTHING LIKE THE ONE WE KNEW. WE NEED NEW BLOOD, AND FRESH IDEAS.

THE TIME HAS COME TO BE AMBITIOUS.

WE'RE OPEN TO SUGGESTIONS, AND WANTED TO KNOW IF YOU HAD ANY IDEAS FOR THE FUTURE.

I THINK I DO...

I HAVE AN IDEA.


THERE YOU ARE, JULES.

YOU'RE HOME LATE TODAY. EVERYTHING OK?

ANYWAY, I HAVE EXCELLENT NEWS: DALITZ, OUR CONTACT IN VEGAS, CALLED ME BACK.
NOT ONLY ARE WE GOING TO DO BUSINESS WITH THEM, BUT JUST WAIT UNTIL I TELL YOU ABOUT HIS CASINO.
AND YOU KNOW WHAT THE *BEST* PART IS?

IT'S THANKS TO YOU.

SIT DOWN. I'LL POUR YOU A DRINK. THIS CALLS FOR CELEBRATION.

I SPOKE TO SOME FRIENDS. THEY'LL PROVIDE US WITH ALL THE NECESSARY PERMITS.

OF COURSE, IT WILL COST US, BUT... THAT'S NOTHING COMPARED TO THE PROFIT MARGINS WE'LL HAVE IN JUST A FEW MONTHS.

WE'RE MOVING OUR OPERATIONS TO NEW STATES! AND WITH A CASINO TO LAUNDER OUR MONEY!

WE DID IT, JULES. WE DID IT *TOGETHER*.

HOWEVER, WE HAVE TO GET STARTED RIGHT AWAY. I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO—

I'M LEAVING, ADAM.

WHAT...?

I'M LEAVING.

I-I DON'T UNDERSTAND, JULES.

I'M GOING TO MARSEILLE TOMORROW, TO LAUNCH DON SAVERIO'S HEROIN BUSINESS. I'LL BE ON THE FIRST BOAT OUT. A FRENCH CONTACT IS WAITING FOR ME THERE.

I JUST CAME TO SAY GOODBYE.

WH...

JULES, YOU...

WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO YOU? WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IN FRANCE? YOUR HOME IS HERE, AND EVERYTHING YOU'VE BUILT.

WITH ME.

I'M NOT SO SURE...

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN THINKING ABOUT LEAVING?

I THOUGHT WHAT WE BUILT HERE WAS IMPORTANT TO YOU.

BUT THAT'S IT, YOU'RE *LEAVING*? YOU'RE LETTING THEM INFLUENCE YOU, LIKE ALL THE OTHERS? IS SENDING YOU OVER THERE SAVERIO'S LATEST WHIM?

IT'S NOT HIS IDEA. IT'S **MINE**.

WHAT...?

IT WAS EUFRASIO'S DREAM.

EVEN IN DEATH, THAT LITTLE SHIT IS STILL RUINING MY LIFE.

WHAT IS THIS? YOU'RE MAD AT ME? YOU'RE GETTING *EVEN*?

EVERYTHING I DID WAS FOR YOU, JULES. QUIT ACTING LIKE A SELFISH CHILD AND RUNNING AWAY WHEN THINGS GET SERIOUS.

I JUST CAME HERE TO TELL YOU.

UNLIKE YOU, I DIDN'T WANT TO DO THINGS BEHIND YOUR BACK.

VLAM!!

YOU OWE ME *EVERYTHING*, JULES.

YOU WERE JUST A KID, OBSESSED WITH THE IDEA OF WEARING A FANCY SUIT, WHO WANTED TO PLAY GROWN-UP.

AND YOU DARE TO BE UNGRATEFUL?!

WITHOUT ME, YOU'D STILL BE IN THAT POLICE STATION, OR EVEN WORSE, STARVING TO DEATH IN YOUR WRETCHED APARTMENT BACK IN CHICAGO.

YOU THINK YOU'RE IMPORTANT, THAT PEOPLE TRUST YOU, BUT ALL YOU REALLY ARE IS A TINY LITTLE COG IN A MACHINE THAT'S WAY TOO BIG FOR YOU.

WHO ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? *YOURSELF*? YOU DON'T DESERVE ANYONE'S TRUST.

QUIT BEING SO NAIVE, JULES!

AT YOUR AGE, I WAS TWICE AS SMART AS YOU...

AND MY "FRIENDS" TURNED ON ME THE FIRST CHANCE THEY GOT.

THEY AREN'T YOUR FRIENDS. THEY'RE MERELY COLLABORATORS WHO WILL END UP ABANDONING YOU WHEN YOU NEED THEM THE MOST.

AT THE SLIGHTEST MISSTEP, THEY'LL TURN THEIR BACKS ON YOU. AT THE SLIGHTEST SUSPICION, THEY'LL SEND SOMEONE THEY TRUST MORE THAN YOU, SOMEONE YOUNGER, TO TAKE YOU OUT. SOUND FAMILIAR?

IF I WANTED TO, I COULD BLOW YOUR BRAINS OUT, RIGHT HERE AND NOW. THEN ALL I'D HAVE TO DO IS DISCREDIT YOU, PAY OFF A FEW WITNESSES, AND THEY WOULD MOVE ON. **THAT'S** WHO YOUR FRIENDS ARE.

SO GO AHEAD.

DO IT.

TRY TO SHOOT ME. JUST TRY AND **TOUCH ME.**

YOU CAN'T CONTROL ME ANYMORE. THAT'S BEEN YOUR PROBLEM FROM THE START. I OUTRANK YOU, AND IT MAKES YOU **FURIOUS**, HUH?

EUFRASIO WAS THE SAME WAY. YOU COULDN'T CONTROL HIM. YOU NEVER COULD.

SO YOU HAD ME *KILL* HIM! SO YOU COULD REST EASY!

ADMIT IT!

YOU LITTLE...

ADMIT IT!!

IS THAT WHAT YOU DID TO THE BOY YOU "KNEW"?!

HE QUIT OBEYING YOU, SO YOU THREW HIM TO THE WOLVES?

SHUT UP, JULES.

DID HE TRUST YOU, TOO? WOULD HE HAVE DONE ANYTHING FOR YOU?!

DID YOU LIE TO HIM TOO, BEFORE YOU SHO—

DON'T TALK ABOUT SAMUEL.
HE WAS THE REAL INNOCENT ONE.

YOU ASKED FOR EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENED TO YOU. QUIT PRETENDING THAT NONE OF THIS WAS YOUR FAULT.
YOU ACT LIKE EUFRASIO'S DEATH WAS A TRAGEDY, BUT YOU CAUSED IT. **YOU'RE** THE ONE WHO PULLED THE TRIGGER. **YOU** ACCEPTED THE CONSEQUENCES WHEN YOU FIRED THAT BULLET.
BECAUSE YOU KNEW IT WAS THE ONLY THING TO DO. BECAUSE YOU AND I ARE **THE SAME.**

HIS DEATH PROFITED YOU, TOO. IT OPENED DOORS FOR YOU, AND YOU KNOW IT.
STOP IT, ADAM!!

WE AREN'T THE SAME. THIS HAS NEVER BEEN ABOUT "US."

IT'S ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT YOU. WHAT **YOU** WANTED. EVEN WHEN I COULD FINALLY LIVE FOR MYSELF, YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO CONTROL EVERYTHING.

I THOUGHT THAT, IF I BECAME WHAT YOU WANTED TO SEE, YOU WOULD LOVE ME AS MUCH AS I LOVED YOU.

BUT IT'S IMPOSSIBLE. BECAUSE YOU ONLY LOVE YOURSELF...

...AND YOU'VE TURNED ME INTO SOMEONE I HATE.

JULES, CALM DOWN...RELAX. HAVE A DRINK. THIS IS GOING TOO FAR.

I BELIEVED IN YOU, ADAM. BUT NOW, I CAN SEE CLEARLY.

YOU'RE A PATHETIC LITTLE MAN, WHOSE GLORY DAYS ARE OVER. AND YOU'RE TERRIFIED THAT THE WORLD IS FINALLY GOING TO SEE IT.

JULES. LISTEN. EVERYTHING IS FINE NOW. PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER. DID I HURT YOU? OK, LET'S TALK IT OVER.

OF COURSE I LOVE YOU. I *NEED* YOU.

NO, YOU DON'T NEED ME, ADAM!

YOU ONLY NEED ME FOR **WORK**. IT'S ALWAYS BEEN ABOUT WORK. YOU WERE ALWAYS HAPPIEST WHEN YOU ACHIEVED YOUR GOALS.

I NEVER MADE YOU HAPPIER THAN WHEN YOU WERE USING ME.

BUT IT'S *OVER*.

SO I'M FINALLY MAKING A DECISION THAT WON'T MAKE YOU HAPPY.

YOU WANTED YOUR LIFE BACK, LIKE IT WAS IN CHICAGO? BRAVO, YOU'VE GOT IT.

I WANT NO PART OF IT ANYMORE.

AND THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT.

HA HA...

WAIT, JULES.

WAIT, I SAID. WE CAN TALK THIS OVER.

TALK IF YOU WANT TO. BUT DON'T TOUCH ME.

JULES...PLEASE. LISTEN TO ME. WE CAN WORK THIS OUT.

LOOK AT ME...

JULES, LOOK AT ME!

MGH!

YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME. DON'T GO. WE'VE BUILT EVERYTHING TOGETHER. I'LL CHANGE, OK?

I'LL CHANGE, AND WE CAN GET ON WITH OUR LIVES.

PLEASE, TELL ME WHAT TO DO. TELL ME WHAT YOU WANT.

ADAM...YOU'LL NEVER BE READY TO DO THAT WILLINGLY. I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO DO IT FOR ME ANYMORE.

I'M LEAVING.

...

I...

JULES, WAIT...

I NEVER MEANT TO HURT YOU...

YOU KNOW THAT, RIGHT? I SWEAR.

I WANTED TO PROTECT US. IT WAS ALL FOR US... CAN'T YOU SEE?

I KNOW YOU UNDERSTAND... YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SHARP...

I NOTICED YOU RIGHT AWAY. I LOVED YOU THE SECOND I SAW YOU...

I LOVE YOU, JULES, I—

DON'T LEAVE, PLEASE. I NEED YOU. I TRULY NEED YOU...

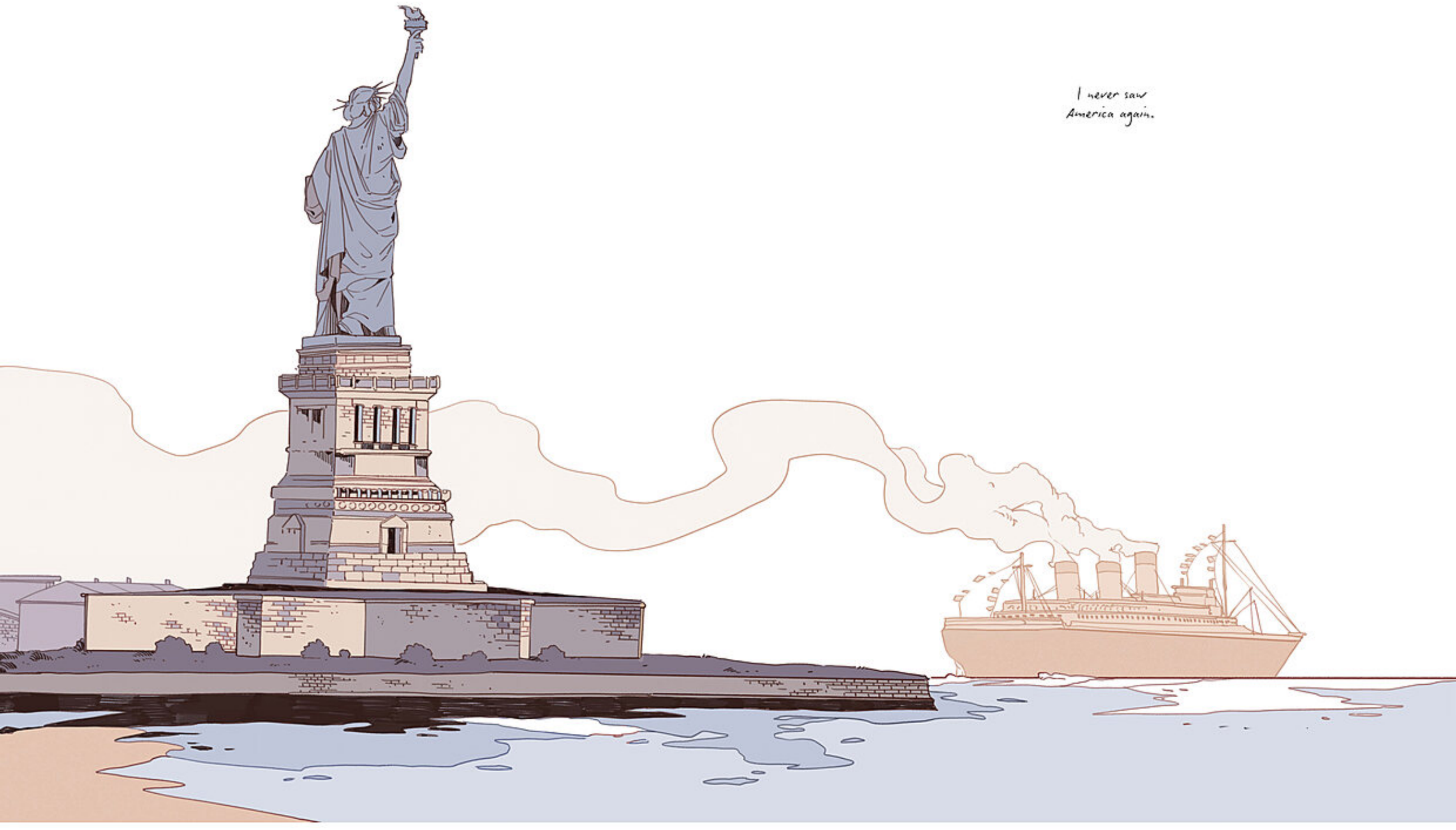
GIULIANO...

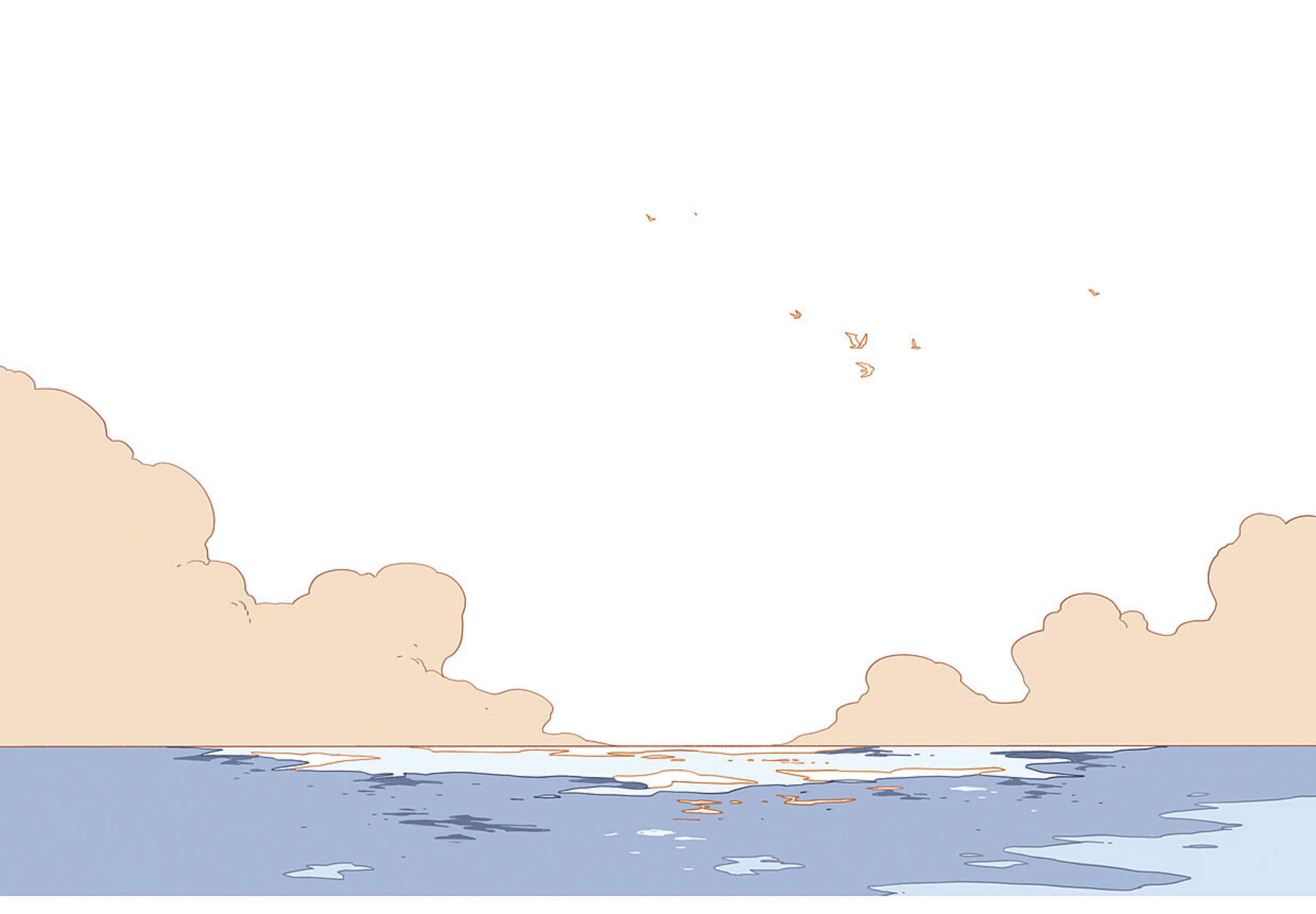
...

GOODBYE, ADAM.

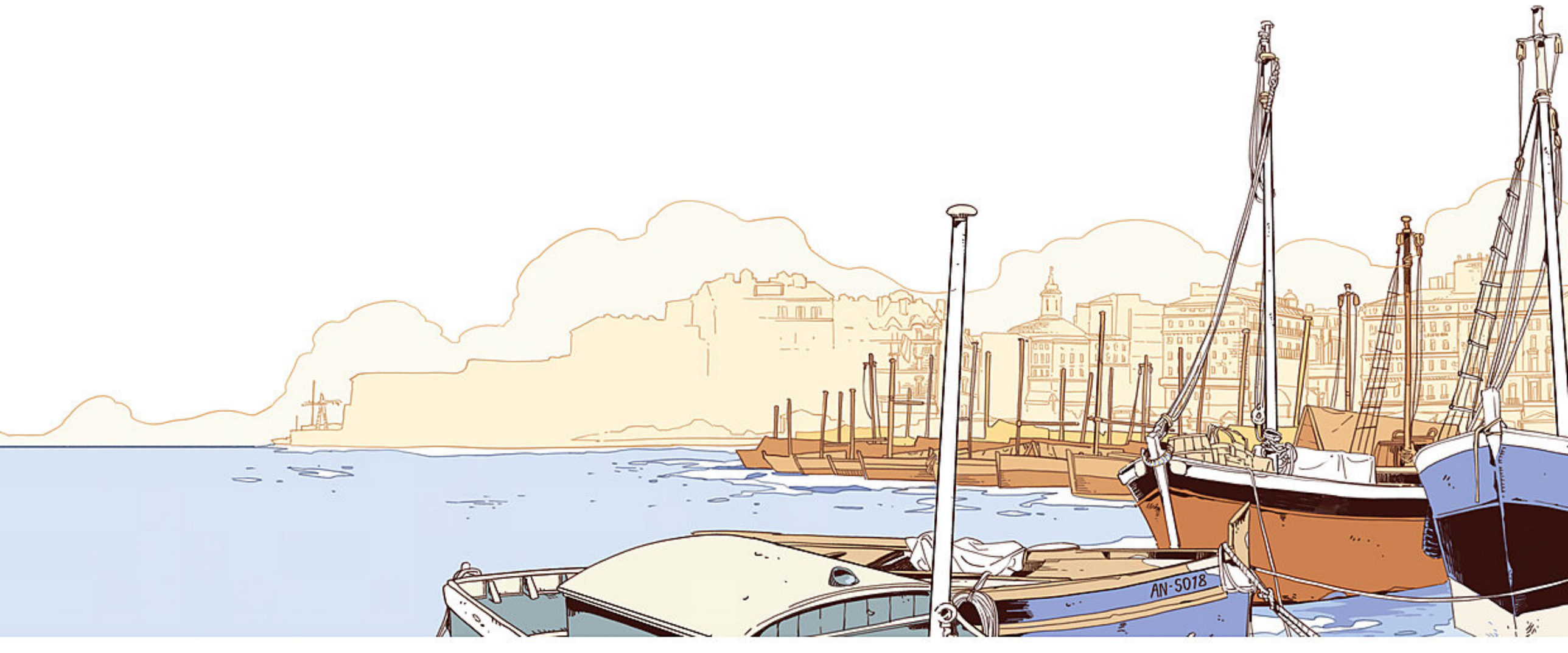
On May 16, 1949,
I took a boat
to France.
I was only
supposed to be gone
a few months...
...to follow
a dream that
wasn't my own.
I thought I would miss
everything and that I'd
end up coming back.

I never saw
America again.





Marseille.
1960



READY?

YES.

WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO?

MAKE SURE THE TERMS OF THE CONTRACT ARE HONORED. INSPECT THE MERCHANDISE AT THE WAREHOUSE AND THE CUSTOMS PAPERWORK.

AND?

BARRET

ARTICLES DE MARSEILLE

L. DUCOS.

YOU DO THE TALKING, AND I WATCH.

VERY WELL.

LET'S HURRY NOW, LUCIEN. HE'S WAITING FOR US.

YES, BOSS.

YOU WEREN'T LYING. THIS IS SOME TRULY EXCELLENT MERCHANDISE.

GLAD YOU LIKE IT. THE BOAT IS READY TO LEAVE.

PERFECT. SOME OF MY CLIENTS ARE NOT VERY...PATIENT, YOU UNDERSTAND? YOU MAKE BOLD PROMISES.

YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, MONSIEUR MAILLARD. OUR MERCHANDISE IS SECOND TO NONE.

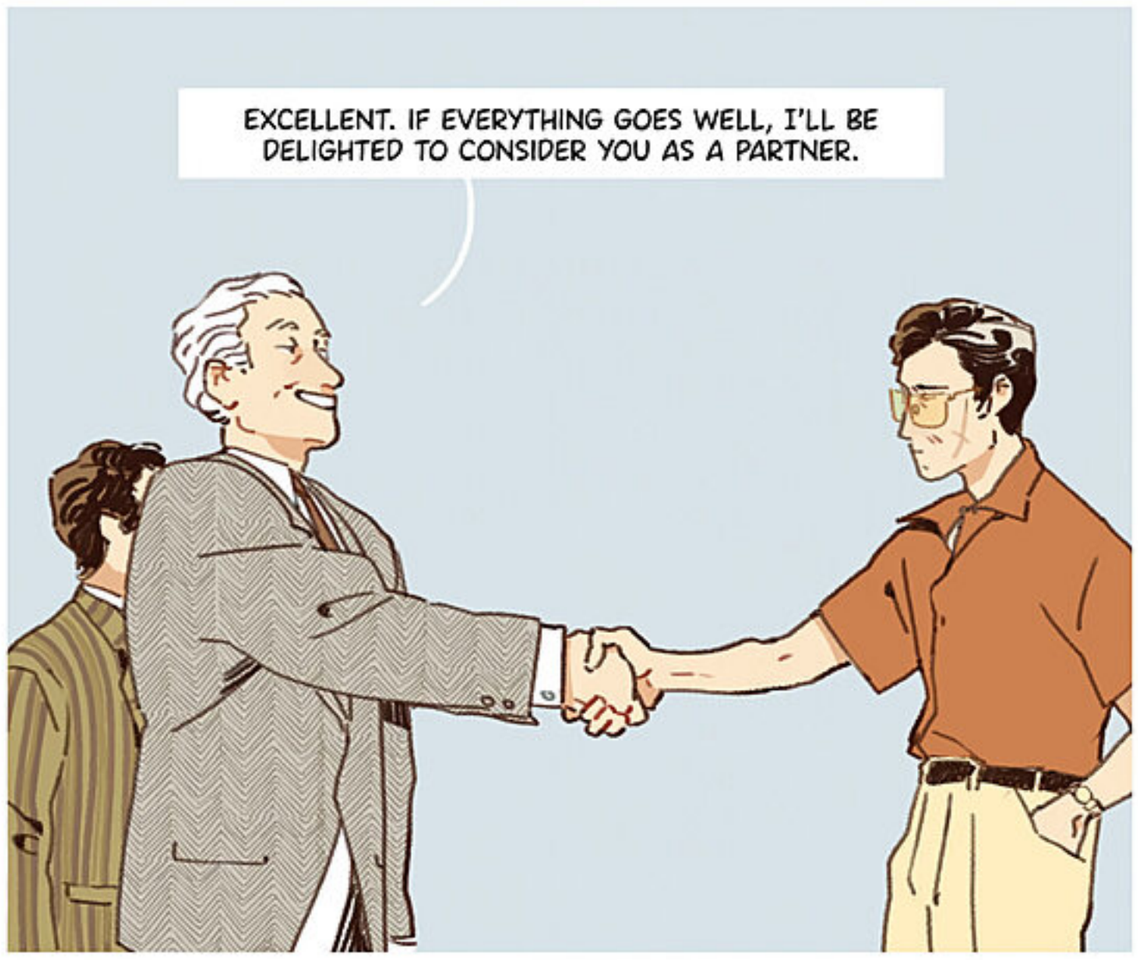
PLEASE, CALL ME ANDRÉ.

THE MONEY WILL BE DEPOSITED TOMORROW, AS AGREED. YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT EITHER, MONSIEUR TIVOLI.

PLEASE, ANDRÉ. CALL ME JULES.

JULES, THEN. HOWEVER... I'VE HEARD A RUMOR THAT STRIKERS HAVE BLOCKED OFF THE DOCKS. THAT WON'T AFFECT OUR DELIVERY, WILL IT?

NOT AT ALL. THESE ARE **MY** DOCKS. IT WILL GO ACCORDING TO SCHEDULE.


EXCELLENT. IF EVERYTHING GOES WELL, I'LL BE DELIGHTED TO CONSIDER YOU AS A PARTNER.

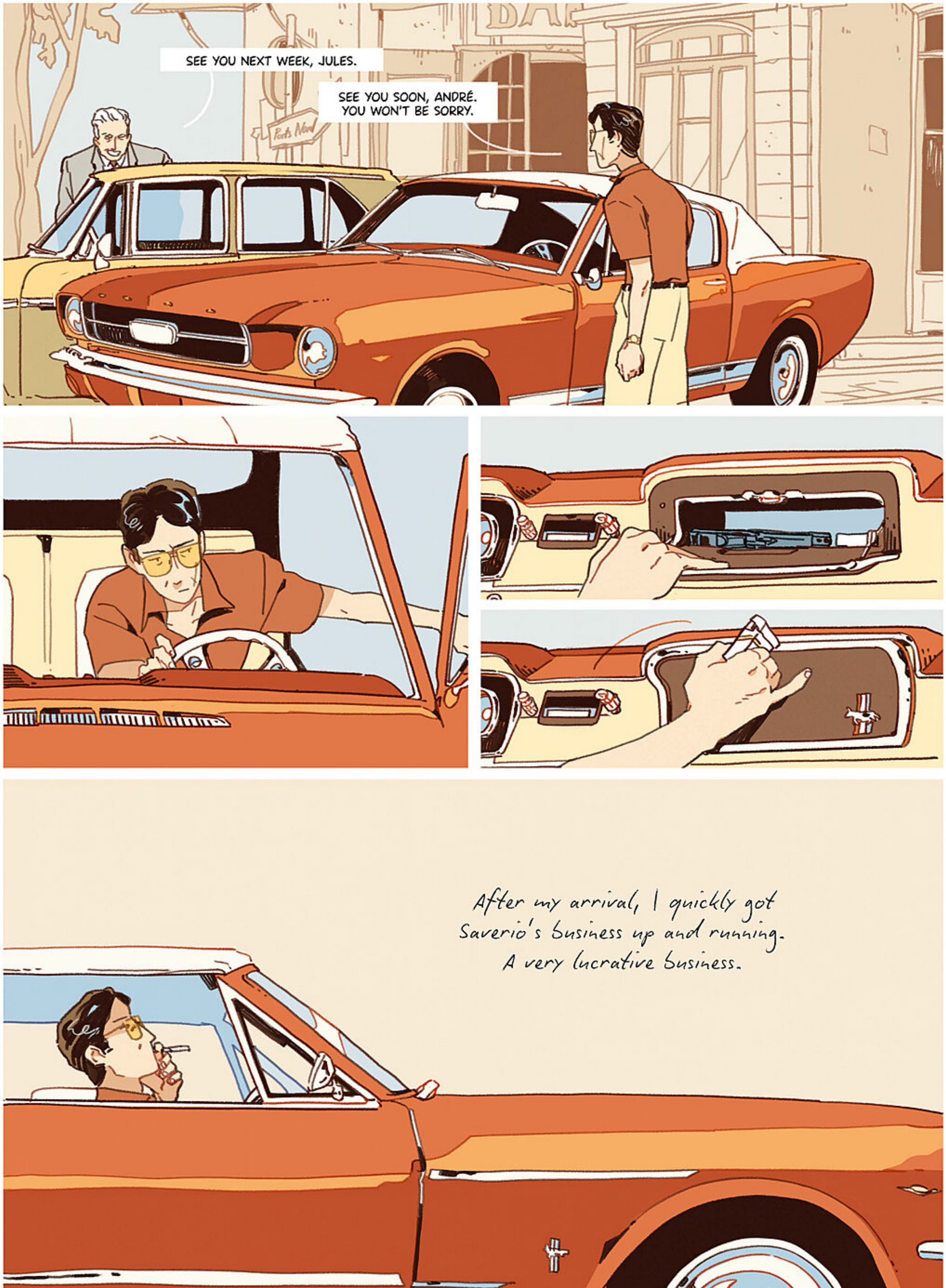
THEN YOU MAY CONSIDER ME AS YOUR PARTNER RIGHT NOW.

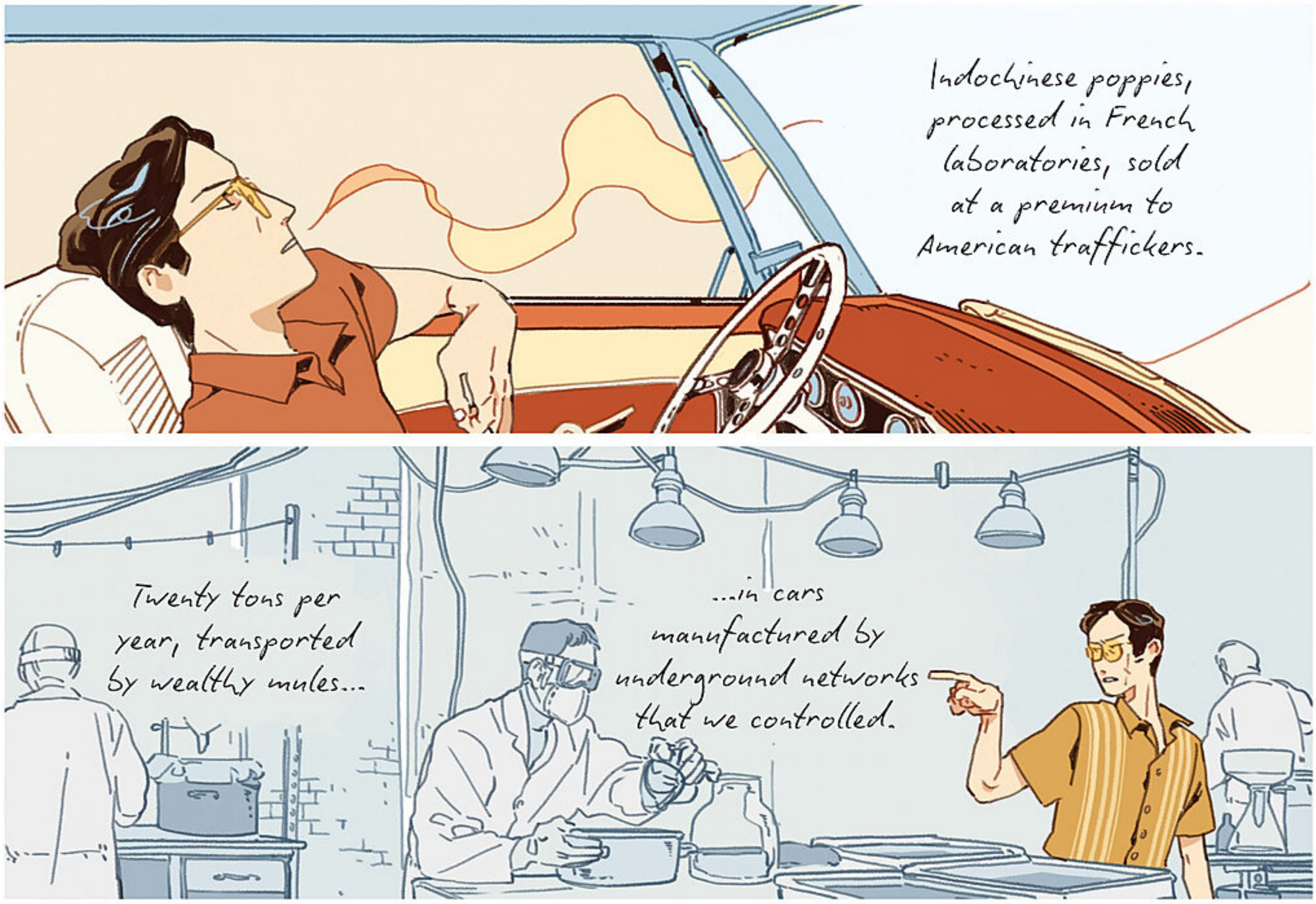
LET'S MEET AGAIN NEXT WEEK TO SCHEDULE THE FOLLOWING DELIVERY—

IT'S AN HONOR TO WORK WITH YOU, SIR.

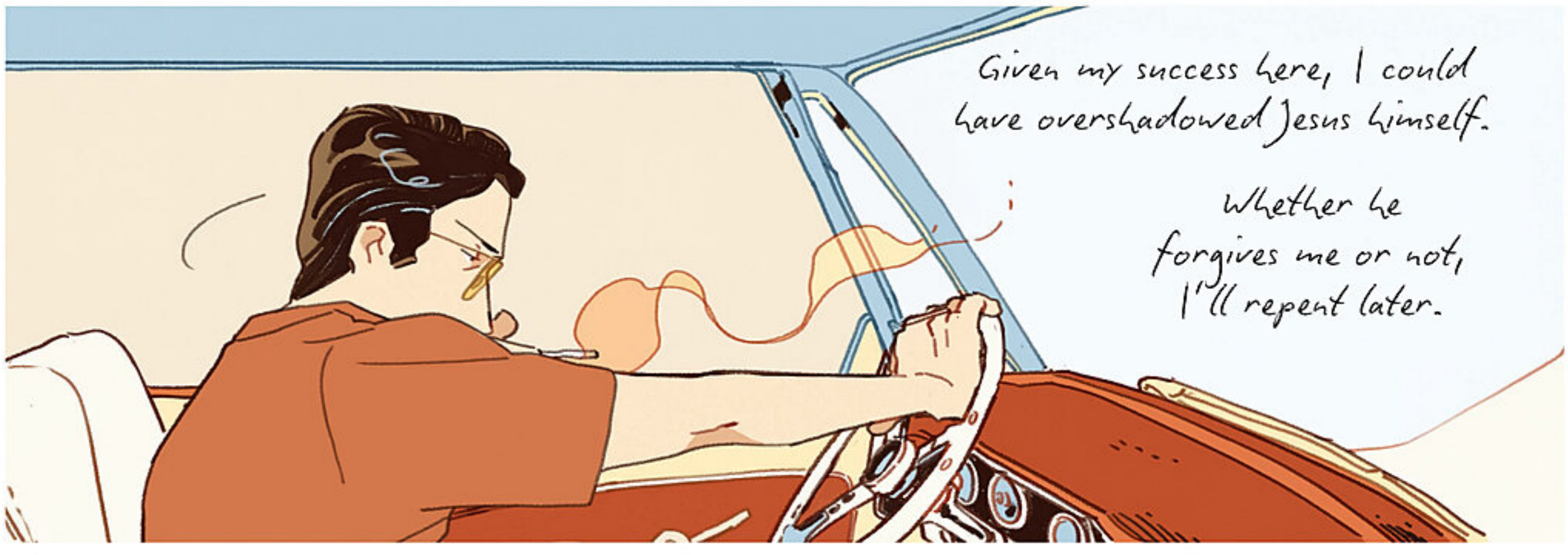
MONSIEUR TIVOLI?

YOU CAN CALL ME JULES.


SEE YOU NEXT WEEK, JULES.
SEE YOU SOON, ANDRÉ. YOU WON'T BE SORRY.
Ports Nord
After my arrival, I quickly got Saverio's business up and running. A very lucrative business.


Indochinese poppies, processed in French laboratories, sold at a premium to American traffickers.
Twenty tons per year, transported by wealthy mules...
...in cars manufactured by underground networks that we controlled.

A brilliant idea of mine, which the Don greatly appreciated. He was a simple man.
His joy was proportionate to his fortune.


Given my success here, I could have overshadowed Jesus himself.
Whether he forgives me or not, I'll repent later.

CHAMBRE DE COMMERCE DE MARSEILLE
HANGAR GENERA

DID YOU CATCH HIM?
YES. HE TRIED TO SKIP TOWN THIS MORNING. HE DIDN'T GET FAR.

YOU SHOULD HAVE HEEDED OUR WARNINGS, JACQUES. DID YOU REALLY THINK YOU COULD ORGANIZE A STRIKE AND BLOCK THE HARBOR WITHOUT US FINDING OUT?

HE COUGHED UP ALL THE STRIKERS' NAMES. WE'LL GO PAY THEM A VISIT.

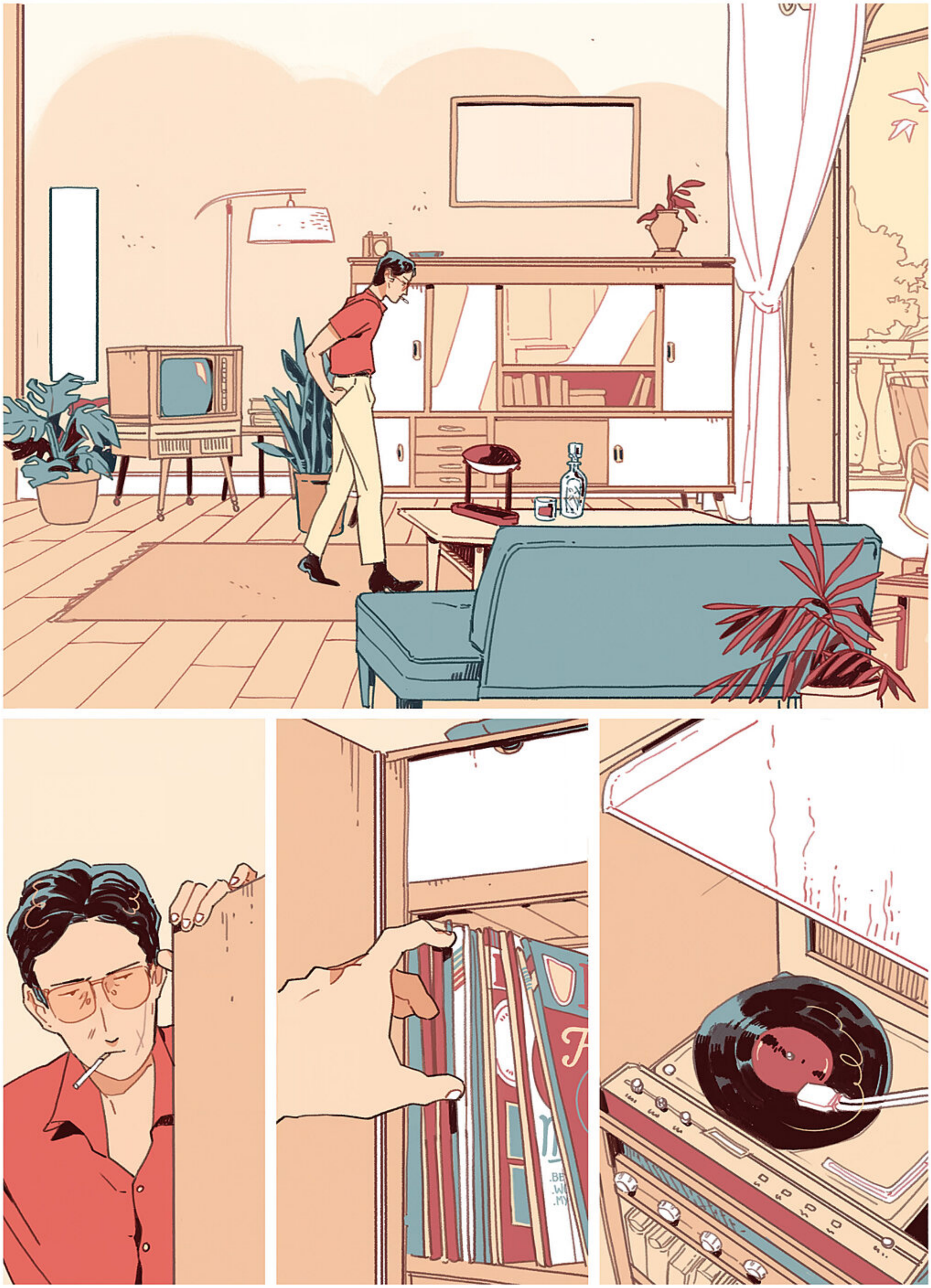
WELL, BOSS? WHAT DO WE DO WITH HIM?

KILL HIM. MAKE SURE HIS BODY IS NEVER FOUND.

THE NEXT UNION ELECTIONS WILL BE HELD TWO WEEKS FROM NOW. BUY VOTES, PUT ONE OF OUR FRIENDS IN CHARGE...WHATEVER IT TAKES TO FINALLY GET THOSE FUCKING DOCKERS UNDER CONTROL.

HELLO, SIR. THE BUYERS ARE HERE. THEY'RE WAITING FOR YOU INSIDE.

THANKS.

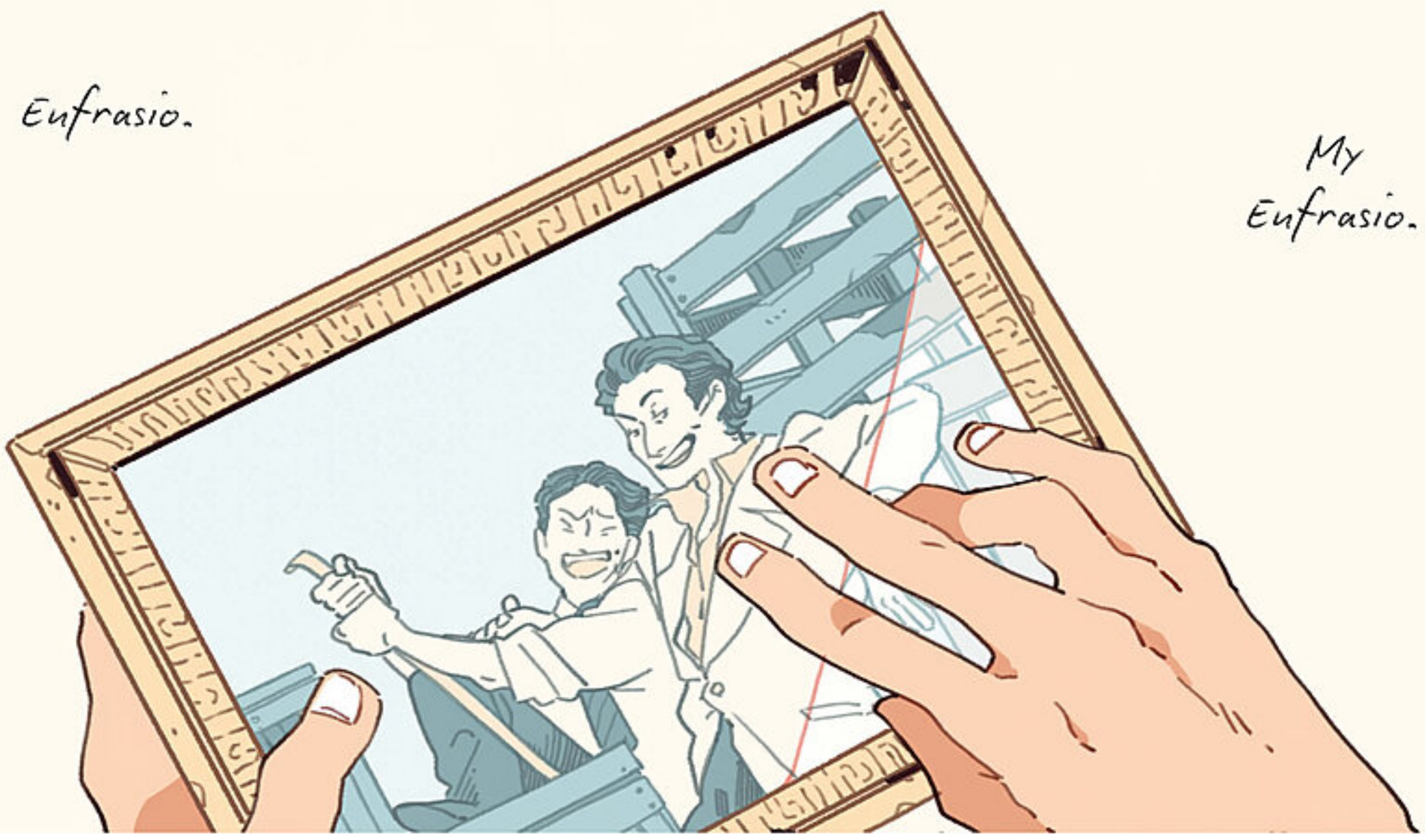


They gave me a chance to come home, but I settled down in Marseille instead.

Going back hurt too much.

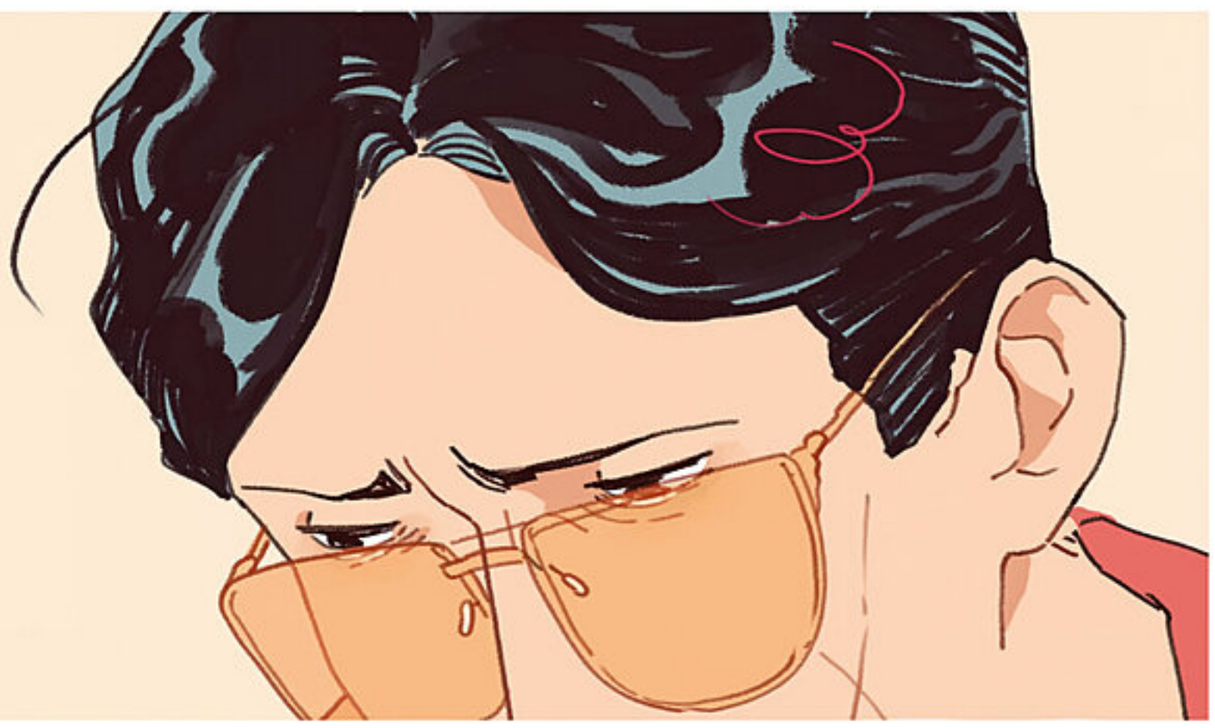
There were too many ghosts. Ones I wasn't ready to face.

Enfrasio.



My Enfrasio.

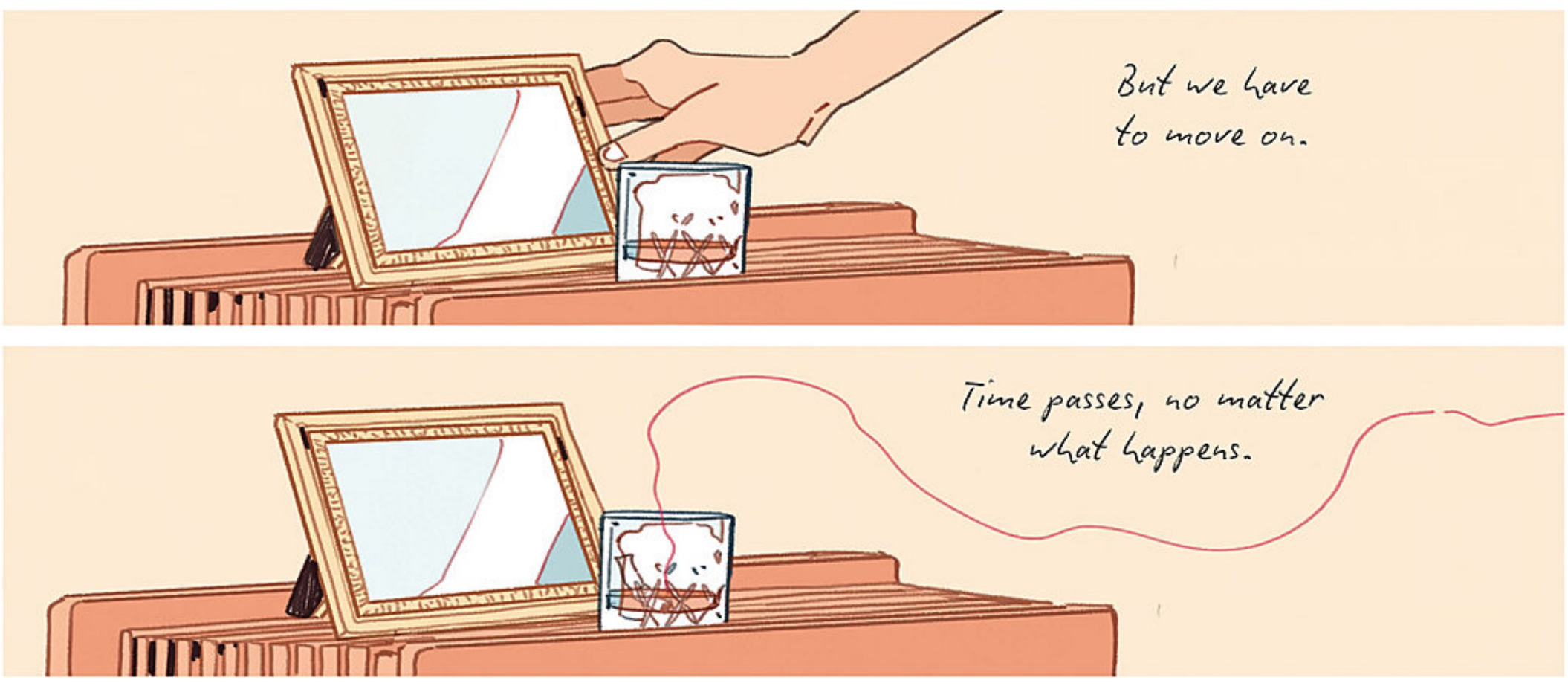
You would have been so happy.



You figured it all out
before anyone else.

It would have been
your finest hour, your
triumph. You would have
surpassed their expectations.

How I wish I could have thanked you.



I'd go
sailing...

HELLO, JULES.

HELLO, ADAM. YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED.
JUST THE WAY I REMEMBER YOU.

YOU'VE CHANGED, THOUGH. A LOT, EVEN.

YOU SUCCEEDED AT LAST. YOU UPSTAGED EVERYONE. YOU'RE UNTOUCHABLE. THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED.

BRAVO.

I ALWAYS DID WHAT IT TOOK TO SURVIVE.

BUT YOU KNOW THAT. YOU MADE ME LIKE THIS.

AND YOU DESTROYED ME.

HAH.

WHAT HAPPENED TO US, JULES?

IT COULD HAVE BEEN GREAT. WE COULD HA—

HAHA!

STOP IT. YOU WOULD NEVER SAY THAT.

YOU'RE ONLY SAYING WHAT I WANT TO HEAR.

WHAT I'M THINKING ABOUT ISN'T SO MUCH HOW IT HAPPENED, BUT HOW I LET IT HAPPEN.

I'M NOT ANGRY AT YOU ANYMORE. I DON'T EVEN KNOW IF I STILL COULD BE.

I FEARED YOUR JUDGMENT MORE THAN ANYTHING THEY COULD POSSIBLY HAVE DONE TO ME.

IT FEELS STRANGE, NO LONGER KNOWING WHAT YOU'RE DOING OR THINKING.

YOU CAME INTO MY LIFE, AND YOU BECAME THE MOST IMPORTANT PERSON IN IT...

...AND I HAVEN'T HEARD A WORD FROM YOU IN OVER TEN YEARS.

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'RE OK, IF YOU REPLACED ME WITH ANOTHER, MORE DOCILE JULES, OR EVEN IF YOU CARE.

I LEARNED TO LIVE WITHOUT YOU. AND WHEN I THINK I'VE FINALLY GOTTEN OVER YOU, YOUR MEMORY RETURNS TO HAUNT ME.

YOU KNOW WHAT THE WORST PART IS? SOMETIMES, DEEP DOWN, I TELL MYSELF THAT IF YOU EVER CAME BACK, I'D BE ABLE TO FORGIVE YOU.

AND, LIKE AN IDIOT, I STILL WAITED FOR YOU. YOU BROKE ME, AND I WAITED FOR YOU.

AND YET...

IT'S LIKE THAT STUPID SONG THAT WAS PLAYING JUST NOW.

EACH OF US IS ON OUR OWN SIDE OF THE OCEAN, WAITING AND WATCHING PASSING SHIPS, LOOKING FOR SOMEONE FAMILIAR ON BOARD.

IN THE END, PERHAPS IT'S BETTER THIS WAY.

...

GIULIANO...

HA HA..."GIULIANO." NO ONE'S CALLED ME THAT IN A LONG TIME.

I KILLED EUFRASIO. AND YOU KILLED GIULIANO.

IT'S HARD TO ACCEPT THAT YOU'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO FORGIVE SOMEONE.

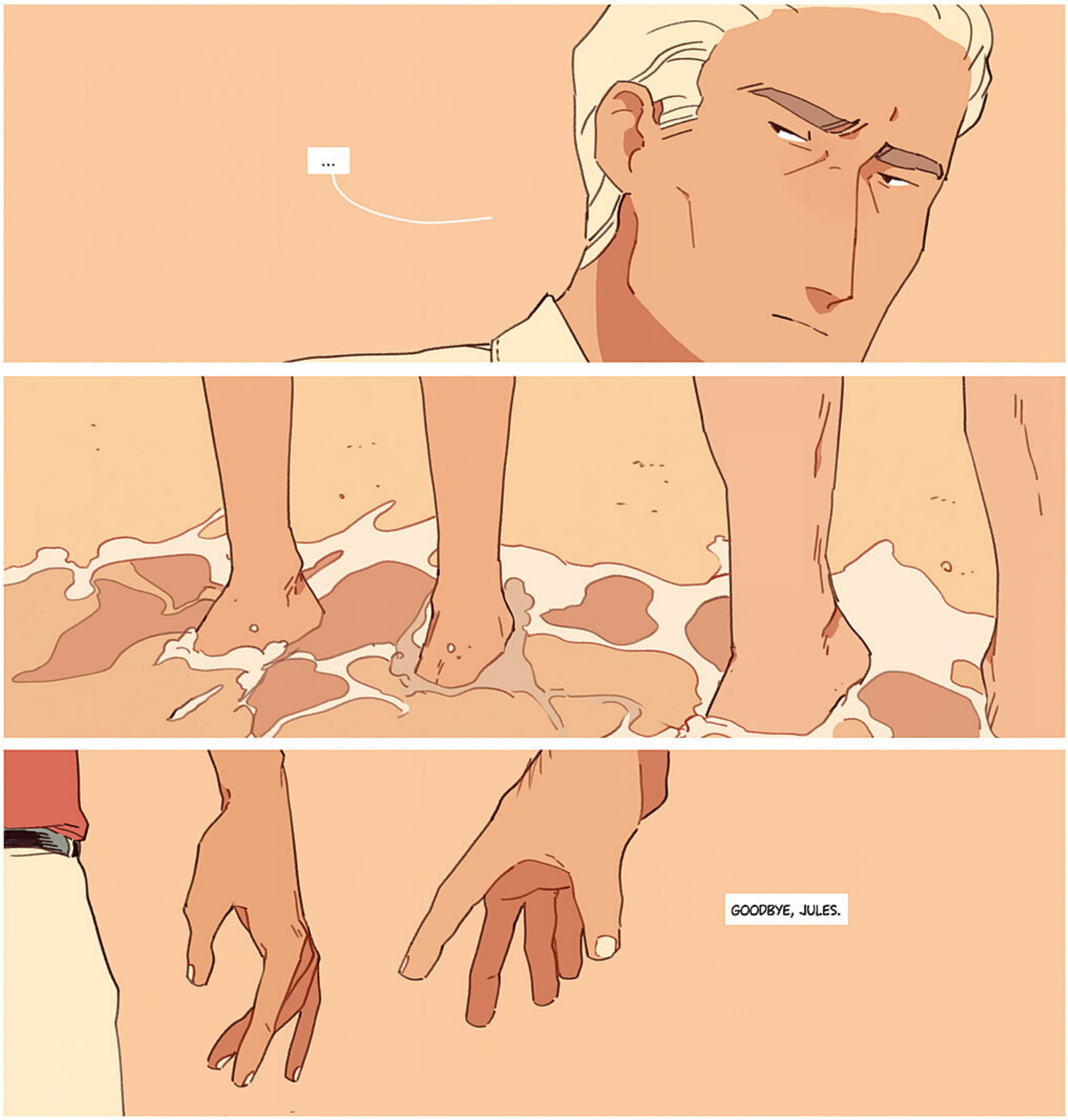
ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO SAY?

NO. I DON'T THINK SO.

I SEE.

SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

I THINK I'D LIKE YOU TO LEAVE.
I FEEL READY.


...
GOODBYE, JULES.

Happy we'll be,
beyond the sea

And never
again

I'll go sailing.

No more
sailing.
So long,
sailing.

Bye bye,
sailing...

Bye bye,
sailing.

SKETCHBOOK

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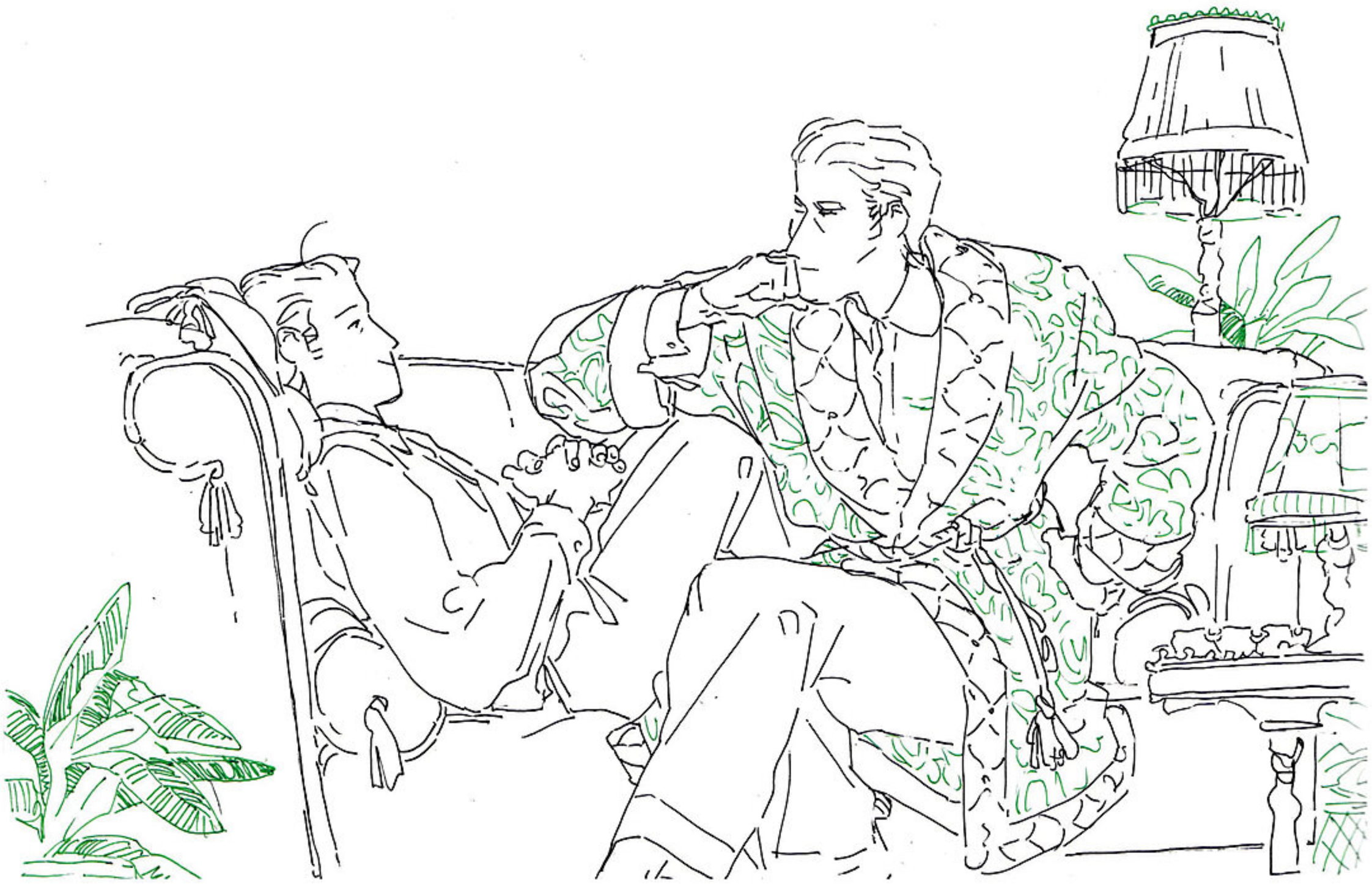
AM
After Midnight



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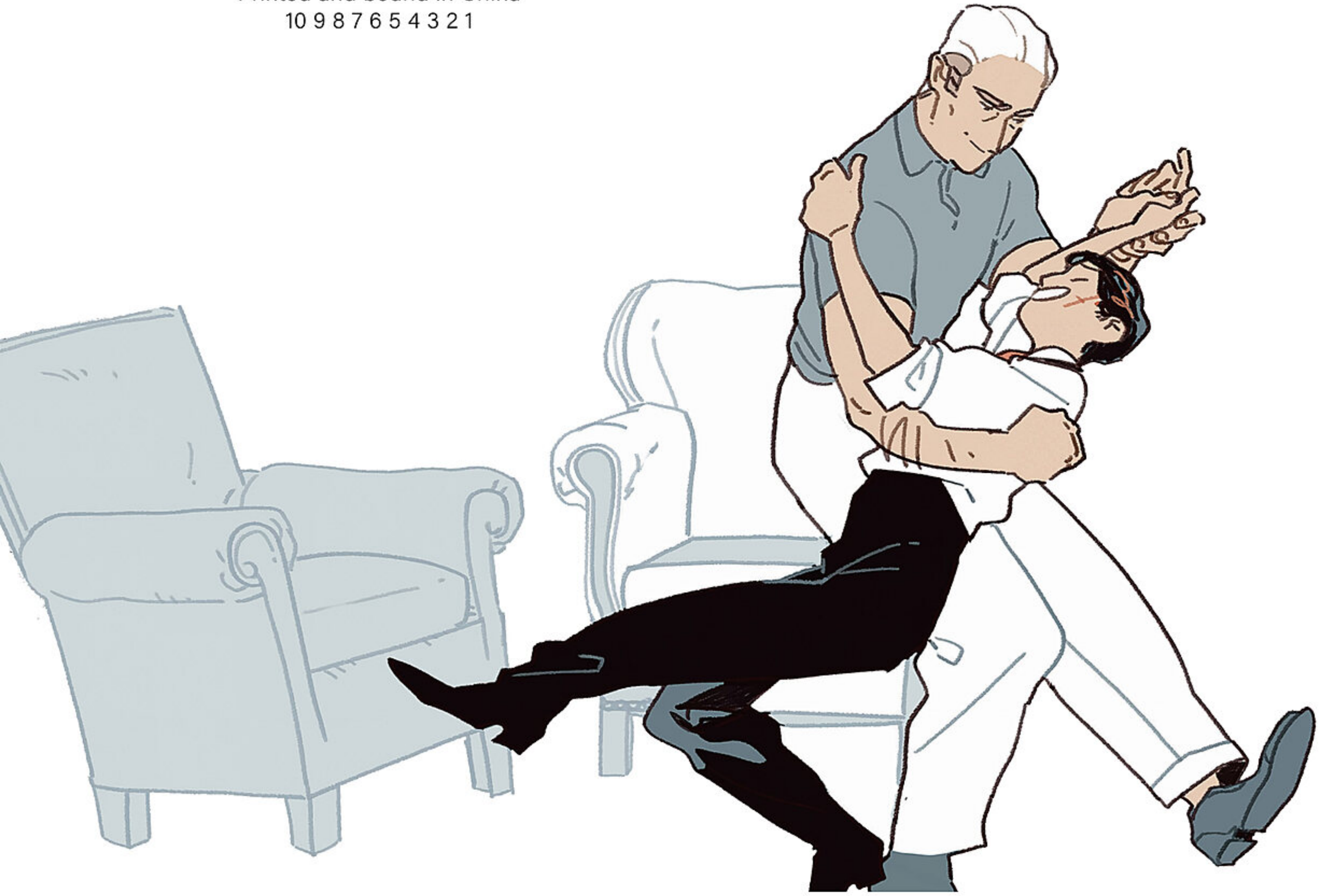

ANAÏS FLOGNY is an illustrator and cartoonist based in France whose work is inspired by artists like René Gruau, Austin Briggs, Kamome Shirahama, and Cyril Pedrosa. She loves to draw intimate moments, cars, goats, historical fashions from the medieval era to the 1950s, and everything in between. *Smoke Gets in Your Eyes* is her debut graphic novel.

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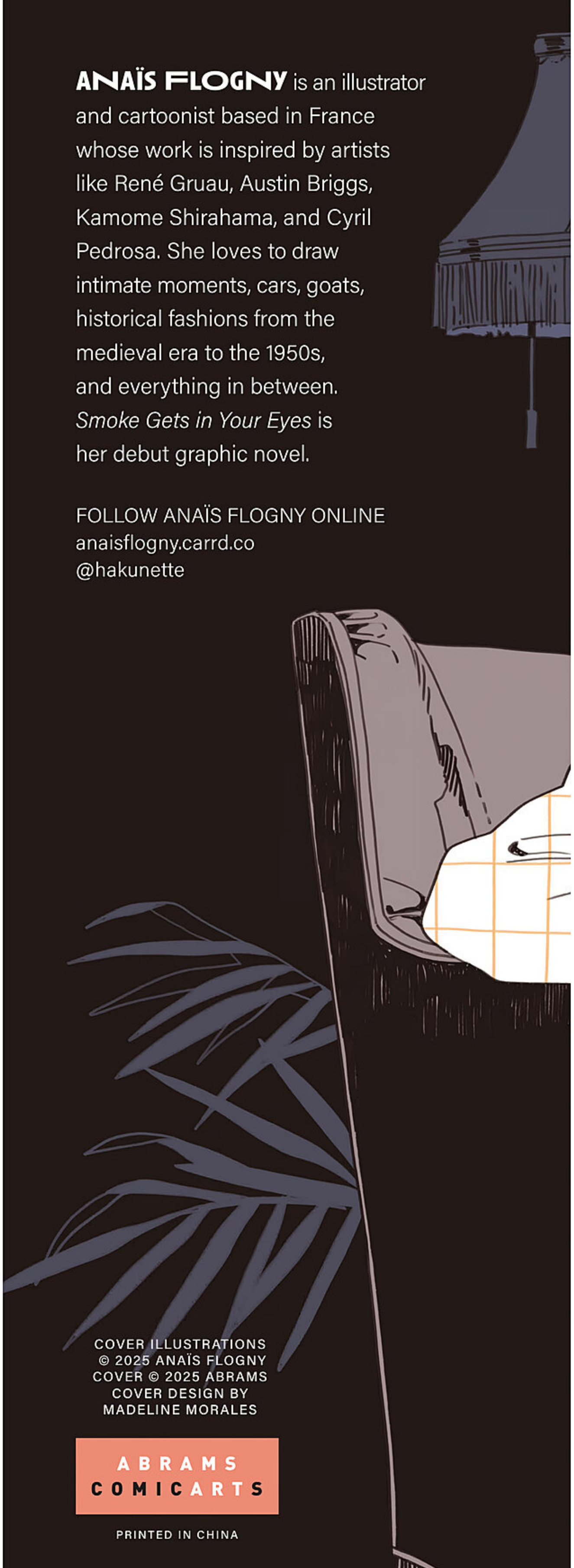

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"All the money in the world,
the fancy suits, friends, lovers . . .
None of it can ever make up
for all of our mistakes."